Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XIX, Issue No. 117 | SATURDAY MAY 16, 2009 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

NTT docomo
DOCOMO PACIFIC
PLEASE SEE INSIDE AD FOR MORE DETAILS

OPINION METER

This week's poll:
On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest, how would you rate the CNMI Labor Department's performance in terms of placing unemployed workers in jobs?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS PHASE 5

As of May 15, 2009

Phase 1: Viruses circulating among animals have yet to cause infections in humans.

Phase 2: An animal influenza virus is causing infection in humans, and is considered a potential pandemic threat.

Phase 3: An animal or human-animal influenza virus has caused sporadic cases or small clusters of disease in people, but has not resulted in human-to-human transmission sufficient to sustain community-level outbreaks.

Phase 4: Verified human-to-human transmission of an animal or human-animal influenza virus able to cause "community-level outbreaks."

Phase 5: A strong signal that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication, and implementation of planned mitigation measures is short.

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

Free

Roxana Saberi, the journalist freed after four months in an Iranian prison, is now in Vienna.

WORLD...Page 11

$2.5M stimulus funds OK'd for teacher development. **PAGE 2**
Mobil follows Shell, hikes fuel prices by 15 cents. **PAGE 3**

DOC to plug immigration loopholes

- Dep't takes over foreign student permitting
- Education oversight panel meets on Thursday

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
Haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Now that the Department of Commerce has taken over the permitting of foreign students, it says it will plug the loopholes in the local immigration rules by ensuring that foreign students who are supposed to be in private schools do not end up in public schools and thereby avail of free education from the government, among other things.

See DOC on Page 4

Joeten Kagman a model for 'green building'

Community welcomes over $1M investment, and new clinic

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, second from right, and Fr. Manny Corcuera, third from left, join members of the Joeten Enterprises Inc. board of directors in cutting the ribbon for the grand opening of Joeten Kagman Market yesterday. From left, Priscilla Tenorio, Annie Sablan, Corcuera, Clarence Tenorio Sr., Patricia Palacios, Norman Tenorio, Fitial, and Frances Demapan. Inset, Norman Tenorio addresses the crowd at yesterday's grand opening of Joeten Kagman Market. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A crowd of dignitaries, businessmen and members of the public took part in yesterday's grand opening of the Joeten Kagman Market, an over $1 million investment that incorporates environment friendly design and features.

Community members welcomed the new market's opening for creating local jobs and providing convenient shopping to Kagman residents who now no longer need to drive to either San Vicente or Garapan to shop, thereby saving them time and gas.

See JOETEN on Page 4

DPH WARNS OF FAKE CURE FOR H1N1 VIRUS

ON THE NET

www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu

CONTACT INFO

- DPH: 236-8797, Monday to Friday, 8am-5pm
  234-8950 after office hours
- E-mail: cnmipheoc@gmail.com
- www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Health issued a warning yesterday about the spread of fake products that claim to cure the dreaded H1N1 flu.

According to its latest health update, DPH said consumers should be wary of Internet, e-mail, and other ads promoting products that prevent, cure, treat, or diagnose the H1N1 flu.

"Some of these ads promote fraudulent flu remedies," DPH said.

Products that carry these fraudulent claims might be promoted as dietary supplements, drugs, vaccines, or diagnostic tests.

For questions about approved flu-

See DPH on Page 4

'Identify person who revealed juror relationships'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. government has asked the federal court to compel the lawyers of former Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez, James Santos, and Joaquina Santos to disclose the names of those who, according to the defense, had disclosed the relationships between some witnesses and jurors.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Eric O'Malley, in the U.S. government's motion to compel disclosure, asked the court to require that person to testify during the hearing on June 22, 2009.

See IDENTIFY on Page 4

Local

$2.5M stimulus funds OK'd for teacher development

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA
Moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Board of Education and Public School System have agreed to allocate $2.5 million to the professional development of public school teachers and counselors, with the money coming from the U.S. President's stimulus fund.

On Wednesday, the board approved the synopsis of the CNMI consolidated ARRA formula grants under Title V, which will be used from July 2009 to September 2011.

The goal, PSS and the board said, is to further enhance the capabilities of teachers and counselors so they would be better equipped to provide quality education to students.

This includes making sure that 80 percent of public school students are reading at or above grade level this school year and scoring at the 50th percentile or higher on the Stanford Achievement Test by next school year. Comes 2014, PSS and the board hope to see 90 percent of students scoring at proficient or above on the standards-based assessment.

Saipan Tribune learned that the total consolidated grant will amount to $2.552 million, of which 85 percent would go to local use and 15 percent for program administration.

For the summer seminars for teachers, teacher aides, counselors, and school administrators, the board approved an allocation of $600,000. This will enable PSS staff to become fully certified and highly qualified.

About 67 percent of the 492 public school teachers are now considered highly qualified: They have degrees, valid certifications, and have passed both Praxis tests.

The CNMI has until July 2011 to comply with the federal mandate of the No Child Left Behind Act, which will bar non-HQT personnel inside classrooms in two years' time.

The board also approved the school leadership improvement programs, budgeted at $264,000; standards and assessments history and analysis in preparation for peer review, $180,000; development of a growth model, $120,000; teacher academy capacity building, $135,000; and school apprenticeship career building, $100,000.

PSS and the board also agreed to allocate $500,000 to help the lowest performing schools become better.

The construction of an electronic data system with a central archive and search engine, as well as the establishment of a content management Web site was also approved, with funding of $150,000 and $120,000 respectively.

Meantime, 15 percent of the $2.5 million will be used to monitor programs at 20 public schools, professional development of teachers, public education programs, and network upgrades for schools.

In Wednesday's meeting, PSS federal programs officer Tim Thornburgh reported that the U.S. Department of Education will hold a teleconference with PSS officials about the $2.5 million ARRA grant on May 21.

Thornburgh said 12 states have already received their share of the consolidated grant under Title V.

Live fire, inert mine releases on Farallon

The Emergency Management Office, in conjunction with U.S. Naval Forces Marianas Guam, said the U.S. military would be conducting inert releases and live fire releases on the island of Farallon De Mendenilla next week.

The scheduled dates and time are as follow:

May 19-21 from 1pm-7pm: Inert mine releases

May 21 from 2pm-7pm: Live fire releases

The general locations of this activity will be on the island of Farallon de Mendenilla Training Area a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Due to the danger imposed by this activity, EMO is strongly advising the public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—to stay away from this area during the time and dates indicated.

For more information, contact the EMO Operation Section at telephone numbers 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF Marine CHNL 16, and HF single side band radio on 52050. ***(EMO)***

Live the Fiesta Way!
Fiesta Resort and SPA Saipan
goes down memory lane with the
RETRO NIGHTS
at the Chambre BAR
Enjoy the music of the 60's 70's and 80's with
MARIO and LORETA every Monday to FRIDAY.
HAPPY HOUR from 5 to 7pm
LIVE BAND MUSIC from 6:30p.m. to 9:15p.m.
SATURDAY KARAOKE 9:15p.m. to 10:00p.m.
For Reservations and inquiry, please Call 234-6414 ext. 1547-1548 or 233-6414
In Cooperation with
Miller Lite
FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company

Weekend Party
CLUB X
@ the place to be
Featuring One of the original ALLSTAR cast of the HUSH Parties... "DJ CLYDE HARRIS"
with DJ host JOVAN "THE ODDCHILD" TAMAYO
IT'S CRANK TIME PARTY PEOPLE!!!...
Will HIT & ROCK the dance floor tonight May 16, 2009
FRIDAY & SATURDAY
DRINK SPECIALS
$5 cover charge w/ 1complimentary drink & shot
WIN raffle prizes,give away, bar tab & MORE!!!
Have Fun!!
FREE CHASERS
9:45pm - 11:45pm
Entertainment
Starts 9:45pm
Another exciting offer from the Grand!
Miller Lite
MAGAS
The Grand Party Continues
So Come and Let's Party!
For inquiries please call 234-6601
ext. 301-302
SGH Saipan Grand Hotel
A TanHoldings Company

Mobil follows Shell, hikes fuel prices by 15 cents

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Mobil Oil Marianas yesterday mirrored Shell Marianas' pump price increase of 15 cents a gallon, leaving Saipan motorists with no choice but to pay at least $3.12 a gallon to fill up their tanks.

Shell raised its pump prices on Thursday. Mobil followed suit Friday, a few days after it increased its prices on Tuesday, only to roll it back on Wednesday.

Mobil and Shell Marianas' self serve regular unleaded gasoline now costs $3.12 a gallon, up from the previous price of $2.97 a gallon since the last round of price changes in February.

Motorists will be able to buy cheaper self serve super unleaded gasoline at Mobil service stations at $3.42 a gallon, compared to Shell's self serve premium unleaded gasoline priced at $3.44 a gallon.

Mobil and Shell's diesel is now $3.29 a gallon.

Both Mobil and Shell have not been issuing advance public notices of pump price changes.

Motorists in the CNMI are paying much higher for gasoline than their counterparts on the U.S. mainland. As of May 11, the U.S. average for a gallon of regular gasoline is $2.240, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

Motorists now have to pay at least $3.12 a gallon of gasoline to fill up their vehicle tanks because of Shell and Mobil's price increase on Thursday and Friday, respectively.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

House calls on permitting agencies to shed light on Marpi land clearing

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources, Rep. Ray A. Tebuteb, has called on all local environmental regulatory and permitting agencies to shed light on the ongoing Marpi land clearing, which Rep. Tina Sablan says is a plain violation of Coastal Resources Management regulations because of a lack of a major siting permit.

Tebuteb said yesterday he has asked officials from CRM, the Division of Environmental Quality, the Department of Lands and Natural Resources main office, the Division of Fish and Wildlife, the Historic Preservation Office, and the Saipan Zoning Office to brief the committee about the Marpi project.

The briefing is set for Monday, 9:30am, in the House chamber on Capital Hill.

"We want the permitting agencies to update us on the Marpi project. What's going on in there? We will ask about the permits issued or not issued because there are a lot of concerns about that," Tebuteb said in a telephone interview.

Some 62 hectares of land in Marpi are being cleared of unexploded World War II ordnance, using U.S. Environmental Protection Agency brownfields funding granted to the Department of Public Lands.

Tebuteb said the committee hopes to get a better understanding of the issues once all permitting agencies are in one room to answer questions.

Members of the community have raised concerns about the scenic area's development into a homestead subdivision while others questioned the lack of permits and lack of public hearing before the actual clearing began.

DPL Secretary John Del Rosario said once the area is cleared of war ordnance—which he said is far from over—then that's the time they will decide what to do with the area, with input from the community. He added that nobody has been promised a homestead lot in Marpi.

On Monday, Rep. Tina Sablan asked CRM to issue an immediate stop-work order on the ongoing clearing until formal public hearings have been conducted and until a major siting permit has been duly issued.

Sablan said the project "is proceeding in plain violation of CRM regulations" because of a lack of a major siting permit.

Tribute to Macaranas during Conference on Aging

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The *man'amko* will be dedicating a special tribute to the late Howard Iglecias Macaranas at next week's Conference on Aging.

Part of the observance of Older Americans Month, the conference will be held Friday, May 22, at the Aqua Resort Club Saipan.

Over a hundred participants and guests are expected to gather for this important annual occasion, set from 9am to 1:30pm.

This year's theme is "Living Today for a Better Tomorrow."

Macaranas was the director of the Office on Aging until he died of a stroke last April 16. He was 44.

This would be an opportunity for the *man'amko* to pay a tribute to "an extraordinary and inspirational man whose spirit will remain with us always."

Acting director Rose Mondala said Macaranas died at a most critical time when the people whom he was serving were celebrating a special month primarily dedicated to the older citizens.

Less than two weeks before his death, a proclamation was signed by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, declaring the month of May as Older Americans Month/Mes Man'Amko/Maramal Tufeey in the CNMI.

There are currently 4,766 citizens age 55 and over who make the CNMI their home, including Chamorros, Filipinos, Chinese, Americans, Koreans, Japanese and Americans.

Dr. Jana Wilgus will be the keynote speaker during the conference while Fitial and Secretary Cecilia T. Celes of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs are expected to deliver inspirational messages.

The event is jointly sponsored by DCCA, Office on Aging and the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

SIS Garage Sale
SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
Saturday, May 23
Set Up: 6:00 AM
Sale: 6:30 AM—12:00 PM
Saipan International School
Tent Spaces cost $20 and are limited.
Call Mili at 288-9660 to Reserve your Space now!
Clean out your closet! It's a great opportunity to sell things you no longer need and find just what you are looking for!

MY Language School MY 英語学校
Try our new classes May 18-29 for $5.00 each

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10:30 am - 12:00 am	E Reading	E Writing	E Speaking	I Speaking	
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Japanese 1	I Reading	E Writing	Japanese 2	I Speaking

* E - elementary, I - intermediate

Regular classes start in June
Registration fee: $10.00. Class $50.00/month
Private & customized class available on request
Vestcor Village 5B (behind Coffee Care at Capitol Hill)
Tel: 322-0184 email:mylangkern@yahoo.com

Sign up today and get a FREE Limited Edition 'in' t-shirt!
You gotta get in.
Save even more with DOCOMO PACIFIC's new Individual Network plan.
My girls are 'in'...
...and so is my yoga instructor.
Pick up to 5 and Save
Depending on your plan selection, you can choose up to five people to make and receive unlimited calls and get huge savings on your phone bill each month!
• Includes calls to and from Tinian, Rota and Guam.
• Convenience of any phone, any network.
Rates starting as low as $45.00* per month
FREE activation!
* Rate plan for 2 people start at $25.00 per month. For details, call 483-CARE. Terms and conditions apply.
individual network
It's your network. Who you put 'in' is up to you!
NTT docomo DOCOMO PACIFIC
483-CARE | www.docomopacific.com | Typhoon-Proven
Gualo Rai, Middle Road • MITA Travel, Garapan

JOETEN

From Page 1

"Besides employment and convenience, the store's main feature is that it is locally owned and operated, which is rare nowadays," Jesse Torres, president of the Kagman Komunidat Association, told *Saipan Tribune* during the grand opening ceremony.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial announced that Joeten Enterprises will also soon break ground for the opening of a new health clinic in Kagman.

Norman Tenorio, a member of the Joeten Enterprises Inc. board of directors, said they have spent well over a million dollars in reinvesting in the CNMI, especially in the Joeten Kagman Market building, despite the deep economic recession.

"Someone asked me, 'Why would you spend so much money when the economy is down?' I answered, 'We're not thinking about the short term. We're in this for the long haul. This is our home and we're here to stay,'" Tenorio said.

He said the store is dedicated to the people of Kagman.

"I think we can expect more great things to come in this area. I'm confident in our future and as Kagman continues its development, we at Joeten will be right by your side. We're not yet finished. This is only the first phase," he added.

The grand opening coincides with Joeten Enterprises' 60th anniversary. Tenorio said both are "milestones for our community and our business."

The governor, in his remarks, said Joeten Kagman Market's opening shows Joeten's firm commitment to the success and growth of the local economy, as he congratulated the company on its 60th anniversary.

"I also want to applaud Joeten for working with our government agencies on Kagman watershed issues, and I encourage our government agencies, especially our permitting agencies, to work with Joeten to protect our environment while also facilitating commerce," said Fitial.

Joeten Enterprises was founded 60 years ago by Jose Camacho Tenorio and his wife Soledad Takai Tenorio. The company has become one of the most successful locally owned companies in the region.

"I will always remain loyal to this family," Fitial told the crowd.

Energy efficiency

Jesse V. Sablan, general manager of CMS, said the building has the most energy efficient design and features in the CNMI today, including the use of air conditioning units, freezers, chillers and lighting that consumes approximately 40 percent less energy than conventional buildings.

Sablan said the building faces the main road for maximum use of natural sunlight to illuminate the building, resulting in 60 percent less lighting.

"Ironically, the most sophisticated portion of this building's culture is not inside. It's all out here," said Sablan, pointing to the surrounding area.

Sablan said from the highest point of the 37,927-square meter property to the front of the building is one huge water source. He said they built a three-stage natural filtration system that captures the entire site's runoff water through a ponding basin at the back of the market, discharge the graded water into the swale across the street, and then to the Kagman watershed.

"We estimate approximately 3 million gallons of naturally treated water are contributed to the watershed and aquifers annually," he said. "As the world embraces the 'Think Green' culture for the benefit of the environment, we at Joeten take it one step higher. We just don't 'Think Green'; it's an attitude."

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial speaks during the grand opening of the Joeten Kagman Market yesterday. Fitial announced that Joeten Enterprises will also soon break ground for the opening of a new health clinic in Kagman.

The building's contractor is CMS, while the subcontractors are RNV Construction and Wires Inc., along with MMC.

Bo Palacios, J.C. Tenorio Enterprises corporate special project manager, announced during the grand opening that Joeten Charitable Foundation renewed its partnership with the Commonwealth Cancer Association.

The foundation also donated $3,000 to the Marianas March Against Cancer and became a title sponsor.

Eco-bags

Palacios also announced Joeten Enterprises' launching of its own eco-bag initiative. The company ordered 10,000 Joeten reusable shopping bags.

"If 10,000 of us reuse the eco-bags at least 10 times in our shopping trips, that means we would have saved 100,000 plastic bags from getting into a landfill or littered along our streets, beaches or parks. That, my friends, is a big impact," he said.

Last year, Joeten partnered with the Division of Environmental Quality to distribute reusable tote bags. It also partnered with Bank of Guam and Tan Holdings to encourage both their customers and employees to use their reusable tote bags while shopping at Joeten.

A growing community

Torres said Kagman, which has grown to an estimated population of 5,000, now has big grocery stores, clinics, video shops, Laundromats, a gasoline station, and other public and private amenities that make it a self-contained community.

"I think what we now lacks in terms of businesses is a hardware store and bars," he added.

Torres, however, said that Kagman has yet to have an efficient sewer and water system and still lacks paved roads in some areas, among other things.

Alfred Ada, principal of Kagman High School, said Joeten's energy-efficient design is laudable.

"It collects runoff and then makes sure it goes back to the watershed. … What else can you ask for? That's the most socially responsible gesture to the community," Ada told *Saipan Tribune.*

Tona Tudela, a Kagman resident, it's "great" that Joeten Kagman opened.

"Instead of us going all the way down to Dandan to go to the store, we'll just shop here, and we save gas," she said.

Also present during the grand opening ceremony were lawmakers led by House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios, former Lt. Gov. Jesus "Pepero" Sablan, and members of the Joeten Enterprises board of directors, including Clarence Tenorio, Annie Sablan, Patricia Palacios, Priscilla Tenorio and Frances Demapan.

DPH

From Page 1

related products, contact your doctor or pharmacist.

The CNMI is still on pandemic alert level Phase 5, as declared by the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

At present, there are no confirmed H1N1 flu cases reported in the CNMI and Guam.

The Pacific Daily News earlier reported that Guam was monitoring two persons with flu-like symptoms who had just come from a country with confirmed H1N1 cases.

As of May 14, WHO reported 33 countries with 6,497 cases of H1N1.

CDC's latest count shows 4,298 confirmed cases of H1N1 in 47 U.S. states, including three deaths.

The list of states with the numbers of people who are confirmed cases is updated daily at www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu.

DPH reiterated that H1N1 flu virus is not transmitted by food, thus it is safe to eat pork because one cannot get the virus from eating pork and pork products.

Contact the DPH for further information at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after-hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

IDENTIFY

From Page 1

O'Malley cited the importance of the motion, saying their attempt to obtain the information through "less coercive means" had proven fruitless.

Seven days after being found guilty of conspiracy to defraud the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. on April 24, Villagomez and the Santos couple filed a motions for acquittal or a new trial, based on allegations that the defense had learned after the verdict that some of the witnesses were related to some of the jurors.

David J. Lujan, lead counsel for Villagomez, stated that after the jury verdict on April 24, the defense received information that at least five jurors and one alternate juror were related to key government witnesses or the government investigator who assisted the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"Based on such information, the defense retained a genealogist to determine the familiar relations of said jurors and government witnesses and to obtain their family trees," Lujan said.

O'Malley said the U.S. government is in the process of preparing its response to the motions. However, they need certain information to do so, and this information can only be provided by the defense, he said.

Specifically, the U.S. government seeks to identity of the person or persons who provided the information regarding the relationships, he said.

O'Malley said that last May 12 he asked Ramon Quichocho, lawyer for Joaquina Villagomez, about the name of the source of information described in those motions.

O'Malley said Quichocho responded that he did not know the identity and that Victorino Torres, counsel for James Santos, would likely know.

The prosecutor said he immediately contacted Torres and asked him to provide the name of the source.

O'Malley said Torres paused and briefly responded: "I've seen her face," but ultimately said he was unable to identify any source, except to say that any information he received had come from Herman T. Guerrero, the person the defense hired to do a genealogical survey on the jurors.

O'Malley said he next called Lujan, asking for the name of the source. He explained to Lujan that the prosecution had a right to interview this person to find out why he or she waited until after the verdict to provide the information.

O'Malley said Lujan answered that he did not know any names and that he did not speak to anyone personally.

The prosecutor said Lujan had also stated that family members of the defendants received many phone calls regarding the juror relationships.

On his second call to Lujan about the issue, the Guam lawyer stated that the "government will have to conduct its own investigation."

In the second call to Torres, O'Malley said the lawyer stated that he preferred not to give any information except during an evidentiary hearing, but if under oath, he would openly provide the information.

DOC

From Page 1

A newly formed Foreign Student Education Oversight Panel, as required by the newly adopted Department of Commerce Rules and Regulations, will also be meeting for the first time on Thursday.

The panel will advise the Commerce secretary with respect to the issuance of a certification for any educational institution applying with the department for a certification to enroll foreign students.

Since May 7, Commerce has assumed responsibility for processing, approval, issuance and renewal of permits for foreign students, in addition to permitting foreign investors and retirees.

These functions were previously that of the Division of Immigration.

But Immigration retains the authority to issue entry permits and to deal with excludability and deportation.

Commerce Secretary Michael J. Ada yesterday, however, said that some foreign students whose applications were filed prior to the effective date of the amended Department of Commerce Rules and Regulations were "grandfathered."

He said the amended regulations authorize Commerce to certify whether a private school can accept foreign students.

"The student can only come in if the school is certified by us," Ada said in a telephone interview.

Under the 22-page amended regulations, the Commerce secretary can also accept the certification of a recognized U.S. regional or national certification authority.

Ada said private schools are also required to report to Commerce foreign students who have withdrawn their enrollment from their school or have exited the CNMI.

He said Commerce will conduct inspections and scrutiny of permits of foreign students who were accepted entry into the CNMI to be enrolled in private schools.

"If for example they're supposed to be enrolled in private school A and they're not there and instead enrolled in a public school, then they're in violation of the regulations. They cannot go to public schools," he added.

Scott Norman, representative of private schools in the Board of Education, earlier said many foreign students who were allowed to enroll in private schools on island are taking advantage of "loopholes" in the immigration system and are ending up as public school students, availing of free education from the government.

He said private schools are losing foreign students due to "transfers," majority of whom go to public schools, which is against immigration regulations.

Oversight panel

The Commerce secretary, upon receipt of an application for certification as a qualified educational institution, will convene and chair a foreign student education oversight panel.

The panel is comprised of at least one representative from Northern Marianas College, the Department of Commerce, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, the Public School System, and the community at large.

Ada said retired educator Agnes McPhetres has been named to the panel to represent the community at large because of her background.

Six-month regulations

Commerce has always been the permitting agency for foreign investors and retirees. But due to federalization, the amended regulations with respect to foreign investors and retirees may no longer apply on Nov. 28.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, however, has yet to issue proposed regulations on investor and foreign student visas and CNMI-only transitional workers.

Ada said Commerce's requirements for foreign students are the same as those required by the federal government so the local regulations may still be applicable beyond Nov. 28.

GOP bets tap the Web for their campaign

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA
Moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The ticket of Republican Party gubernatorial candidate Juan N. Babauta and running mate Galvin Deleon Guerrero is tapping the World Wide Web to boost their campaign for the upcoming primary election on June 27.

Besides their personal e-mail accounts, the tandem also launched a centralized e-mail account for their team, on top of a newly built Web site.

In a news briefing Thursday, Deleon Guerrero said they have also created accounts in social networking sites MySpace and Facebook to ensure they're reaching a greater number of people here and off-island.

All these are now active and are providing positive outcome to the party as more people are informed of the candidates' up-to-the-minute activities.

Since most people aged 20 through 40 use digital technology, Deleon Guerrero said he can't think of any better way to reach them simultaneously, especially in a bad economy.

With politics and elections getting increasingly complex, the team believes that technology is perhaps the only medium that can create a level playing field for all candidates.

"It's very effective…and cheaper too," Deleon Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune*, noting the important role that will be played by the island's digital generation in next month's primary.

Babauta and Deleon Guerrero, along with the team's committee to elect chairman, Ed Guerrero, said it is important to reach out and generate awareness in order to win the campaign. It is also a sure way of learning people's opinion on various social and economic issues on the island, they added.

The Babauta-Deleon Guerrero team will face the tandem of Heinz Hofschneider and Arnold Palacios in the local GOP primary next month.

Though absentee voters are not permitted to join the primary election, Deleon Guerrero said the GOP will keep "networking" with them for the general election.

As of May 1, there are a total of 13,454 registered voters on three islands—all of whom are being encouraged to participate in the Republican primary poll.

Ed Guerrero said both camps have agreed not to build any tents beside or within the polling areas on primary day.

"That's the agreement and we're serious in what we have agreed upon with the other camp," Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune*.

PSS 'green energy' project seeks $4.1M funding

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA
Moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System will seek about $4.1 million in federal assistance for its "Green Energy School Project," which aims to realize substantial energy savings for its schools.

The goal is to establish the Saipan Southern High School as a pilot school for green energy, with energy savings projected to exceed 80 percent by project completion.

The project, according to PSS and the Board of Education, began the initial phase in January when SSHS built a single Skystream Wind generation system and three solar panels to support the school's water needs and provide power to two model classrooms within its science department building.

PSS proposes to enter into the second phase in SY 2009-2010 with the involvement of the entire school system. The project is expected to take up to SY 2011-2012.

Phase two comprises a full grid tie-in of solar arrays and several windmills capable of producing more than 120kw in renewable energy, allowing school to continue operations even with major islandwide or short-term outages.

PSS reported that in the past six years, there have been several major and minor power interruptions that keep disrupting school operations. These outages also cause damage to equipment and critical failures result in closure of rooms and even the whole school at times.

"This problem provided the catalyst for the schools' development of renewable energy, not only to preserve instruction and learning but to use this project to further enhance the island's power needs through the use of 'net metering' technology that provides renewable energy back to the public utilities and ultimately reducing the need for power plant production," the PSS proposal states, adding that in 10 years the energy needs of not only CNMI but the nation will be higher than ever.

Along with the grid-tie in solar and wind generation, classroom energy conservation techniques will also be undertaken and each classroom will be retrofitted with electronic ballasts and highly efficient lighting fixtures that will replace the old magnetic ballast and bulbs. This will save 75 percent more energy in the classroom.

'Actual cost breakdown'

From the proposed $4.1 million funding, PSS will allocate $1.2 million for wind generation, which will comprise six turbine units, $456,996; transfer switch, $240,000; inverter equipment, $210,000; and cables, $325,000.

For solar generation, $2.5 million will be used for 160 solar panels, $1.1 million; transfer switch, $220,000; inverter equipment, $210,000; cable/wirings, $125,000; solar hallway retrofit, $415,000; solar external lighting, $120,000; and solar parking structure, $280,000.

Additional installation is estimated to cost $326,000: solar array installation, $122,000; steel beam placement, $76,000; electrical wiring, $80,000; and concrete footings, $48,000.

PSS proposes $114,000 for permits and warranty.

The project's expansion to different public schools is projected to cost $6.3 million.

EEOC TRAINING CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Frank Gibson, standing in the center, answers questions asked by Northern Marianas College faculty and staff at an Equal Employment Opportunity/Sexual Harassment Training Workshop conducted Friday, May 15. A session was also held the day before, and a final session is scheduled for Monday, May 18. The workshops are part of NMC's continuous efforts to enhance its employee's professional development and awareness of workplace rights.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Nempo Shinkyo Group priest Ryoyu Okeya, second from left, delivers a donation from the organization to Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio. Two hundred members of the group were on Saipan this week to pray for victims of World War II and world peace. Also pictured are other members of the group.

Nempo Shinkyo donates to NMI tourism

A Japanese religious group making its annual pilgrimage to the Northern Mariana Islands took time from their devotions to make a donation in person to Marianas Visitors Authority during their recent visit.

Priest Ryoyu Okeya made the donation on Monday, May 11, on behalf of Nempo Shinkyo Group. Two hundred members of the group held memorial services on Sunday to pray for victims of World War II on Saipan and world peace.

Memorial services were held at the Japanese Peace Memorial and Banzai Cliff, where the group built a memorial tower last year as an affirmation of their commitment to return to the Northern Marianas each year.

"It's very humbling that, even as visitors themselves, Nempo Shinkyo Group would choose to support our tourism efforts," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio in receiving the donation. "This donation will be used to help maintain the area where their memorial tower is at Banzai Cliff, which is one of our most popular and scenic visitor sites on Saipan." ***(MVA)***

Conveniently located on Lower Navy Hill, 5-minute walk to Commonwealth Health Center. Newly renovated building with 3-bedroom 2 bathrooms. EPA approved solar water heaters. Free Wi-Fi. Rooftop deck facility for BBQ or Party. Air-condition in all bedrooms.
LNH APARTMENTS

Conveniently located on Finasisu road, only 5-minute walk to Northern Marianas College. Close to stores and schools, Finasisu Terraces features a convenient, spacious parking area. Fully furnished air-conditioned units and ready to move in. Two bedroom units available.
FINASISU TERRACES

Spacious two bedroom terrace apartments with a beautiful view of Western Saipan from Navy Hill. All units feature a private balcony are fully furnished, air-conditioned and feature FREE wireless DSL internet service.
OCEANVIEW TERRACES
SUNSETVIEW TERRACES

Realty Management Services
A TanHoldings Company

Realty Management services is a full-service property management company located on the island of Saipan in the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All our properties are equipped with ff. amenities Laundry Area Free trash collection 24-hr water and power Night-time Security Guard On call maintenance staff Ample parking space Cable ready Close to stores and schools For more information please call 285-1317 and look for Jeremy MIHA applicants are welcome & special rates for NMC Faculty Staff, PSS and Military Personnel.

PMB 521 Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950-8900 • Tel: 1(670) 235-6527/28 • Fax: (670) 235-6530 • sales@rmssaipan.com • www.saipan-properties.com

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XIX, Issue No. 117

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Lynn A. Knight PUBLISHER
Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Engage with Burma? Sure, but not just with the generals

At first glance, the stars seem aligned for a new era of U.S. engagement with the dictators who run Burma, the Southeast Asian nation of 50 million people also known as Myanmar. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton has ordered a review of U.S. policy. Several humanitarian organizations are pushing hard for change, arguing that the regime has modified its behavior since infamously barring aid after a devastating cyclone a year ago. United Nations officials are always eager to conduct more diplomatic missions, the meager fruits of past efforts notwithstanding.

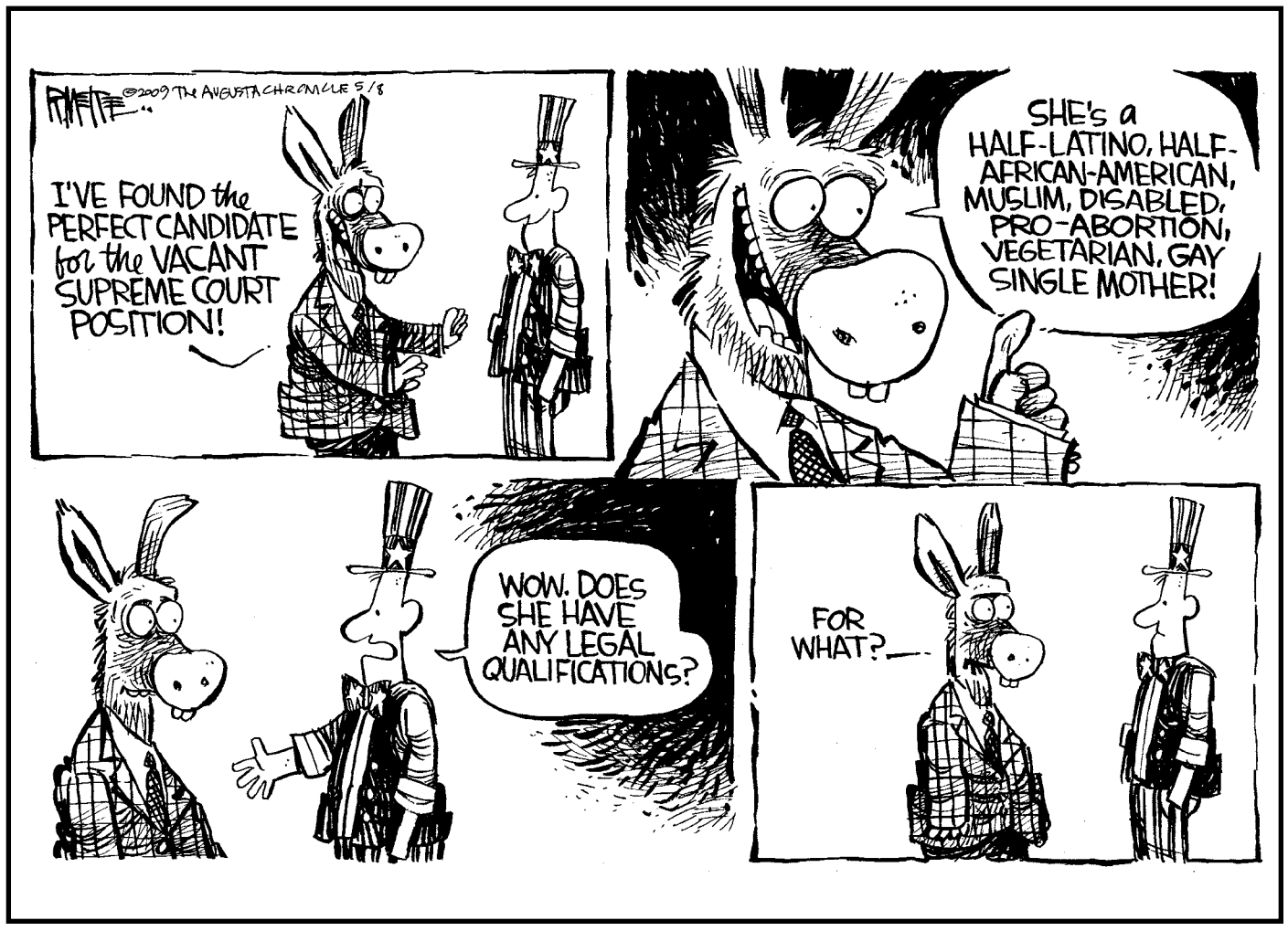
There's just one problem: Burma's maximum leader, Gen. Than Shwe, doesn't seem to have gotten the memo. While advocates of engagement insist that the regime has changed its stripes, in reality it is constantly finding new ways to shock the conscience. The latest reminder of its nature is the detention of Tin Myo Win, the personal physician of Burma's democracy leader, Aung San Suu Kyi.

A little background: Aung San Suu Kyi, 63, is the daughter of the hero of Burma's battle for independence from colonial status. In 1990, when Burma's ruling generals imagined they were popular enough to win an election, she led her political party, the National League for Democracy, to a resounding parliamentary victory, though she was even then under house arrest. The generals nullified the election and arrested many of Aung San Suu Kyi's followers. She has been held incommunicado and under house arrest for most of the time since, even as she won a Nobel Peace Prize and continued to espouse nonviolent change. In recent days, she has been reported to be ill, and—until his arrest—her doctor had been the only visitor she was permitted.

Burma's junta has drafted a new constitution and is planning to stage elections in 2010 that it hopes will legitimize military rule. The pro-engagement campaign in Washington is urging the Obama administration to take those elections seriously, even if Aung San Suu Kyi and the National League for Democracy are excluded. We think Desmond Tutu, a fellow Nobel Peace Prize laureate and former archbishop of Cape Town, South Africa, showed a better understanding, in a Post op-ed last month, when he urged the administration to energize its diplomacy on Burma but also not to marginalize that country's democracy advocates—as many as 2,000 of whom languish in terrible prisons. "(T)hose who support or have resigned themselves to their government's approach are free to speak out," he wrote. "This repression cannot be rewarded; the voices of those it has silenced must be heard as if the walls of their jails did not exist."

So, by all means, the administration should engage with Burma's leaders. But it should insist on the ability to engage with all of them—including those now behind bars. A good start would be to insist on the release of Tin Myo Win and on freedom for his courageous patient.

(c) 2009, The Washington Post


©2009 THE AUGUSTA CHRONICLE 5/8
I'VE FOUND the PERFECT CANDIDATE for the VACANT SUPREME COURT POSITION!
SHE's a HALF-LATINO, HALF-AFRICAN-AMERICAN, MUSLIM, DISABLED, PRO-ABORTION, VEGETARIAN, GAY SINGLE MOTHER!
WOW. DOES SHE HAVE ANY LEGAL QUALIFICATIONS?
FOR WHAT?—

Forget 1964, remember what made GOP great

By MICKEY EDWARDS
Special to the Los Angeles Times

Edwards is a former U.S. congressman, a lecturer at Princeton University and the author of Reclaiming Conservatism.

There are optimists within the Republican Party. They look at the wreckage left behind after the 2008 elections, and recall 1964. That was the year that Barry Goldwater, the Republican nominee for president, was so badly trounced that pundits proclaimed the GOP dead. But it was also the year that a new breed of conservative activists, myself among them, brought a new energy to the party that eventually reshaped it and led to years of Republican domination of the executive branch.

The whistle-past-the-graveyard crowd imagines that this year's doomsayers have simply forgotten history: Four years after the 1964 disaster, they remind us, Republicans won the presidency. We'll just do it again, they say. But the Republicans' defeat last year was far different from their 1964 loss—and it will be a lot harder to come back from.

In 1964, Goldwater was seen as an anomaly. He was not representative of his own party, and, to a large extent, was rejected by it. The conservatives voters so soundly rejected in 2008 are seen not as anomalous but as representative of the larger party.

The Richard Nixon who won the presidency in 1968 had been vice president under Dwight Eisenhower, who left the White House with his popularity intact. The GOP candidate in 2012 will have to overcome the nation's memory of the previous Republican in that office, George W. Bush, who was less popular in most of America than the New York Yankees are in Boston. There will be no "glorious days of Republican leadership" to hark back to unless the party's candidates continue to dredge up memories of Ronald Reagan, who left Washington two decades ago, before a good many younger voters were born.

When Republicans rebounded in 1968, they were a national party, helped to victory by strong support in areas where, today, the party wanders in a political wilderness.

There are now large chunks of the country almost without a Republican presence. Draw a map of the east side of the U.S., from the tip of Florida to the Canadian border, and see how many Republican senators or governors you find. In 1969, by contrast, the GOP held both Senate seats in New York, Delaware, Pennsylvania and Vermont; there were Republican senators from New Jersey, Michigan, Maryland, even Massachusetts. In the House, Republicans held three of the six Connecticut seats, five of 12 in Massachusetts, both in New Hampshire, 15 in New York, seven of 10 in Wisconsin. You get the idea.

What can you say about the Republican Party in 2009? That it has Alabama locked up? Well, that's not even true: Democrats are far more competitive in the South than Republicans are in much of the country.

It's certainly true that to some degree Arlen Specter's defection from the Republican Party was opportunism. Specter, after all, became a Republican in the first place not because of any particular political point of view but because, in 1966, when both Republicans and Democrats were trying to recruit him to run for district attorney in Philadelphia, the GOP promised more support. Specter himself has said that he's now a Democrat because that's the best way to get elected again. To Specter, party has never mattered much.

But there's more to the story. While Specter will not march in lock step with Democrats any more than he did with Republicans, he will vote with them on many procedural issues, and in the Senate, that's no small matter. So the loss matters. And that's why Republicans need to take seriously the fact that Specter was not so much seduced by Democrats as driven away by a GOP that has become increasingly intolerant of disagreement within its ranks and seemingly incapable of putting forth an appealing platform.

At one point, Republicans put forth a coherent, idealistic vision of America, one that summoned it to greatness. There was a profound belief in the dignity of the individual, a reverence for the Constitution and the founders who proposed it, a belief in doing whatever it took (including spending tax dollars to build a military second to none) to preserve the peace. Republican platforms preached prudence and the virtues of small business.

Today, the Republican belief system has degenerated into an embarrassing hodgepodge that worships political victory more than ideas; supports massive deficits; plunges the nation into "just-in-case" wars without adequate troops, supplies or armor; dismisses constitutional strictures, and campaigns on a platform of turning national problem-solving over to "Joe the Plumber." It's hard to see how all that points the way to a reawakening of voters to trust in the GOP.

This may suggest, of course, that the party should just toss in the towel, accept its designated role as the Whigs of the 21st century and leave governance to its betters. But American freedom depends on power checking power. If Democrats control the legislative and executive branches without meaningful opposition, the country will be the weaker for it. Some of President Barack Obama's initiatives would dramatically shift the boundaries between public and private, reshape the relationship between citizens and government and alter the lens through which America views its international commitments. These are serious matters and deserve serious, and constructive, engagement.

Merely attacking administration proposals and labeling Obama a "socialist" will only ensure that instead of rebounding, as the GOP did in 1968, the party will slip even further into irrelevance. And that will not be good for America.

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Lost memories

By MARION ROACH
Special to the Los Angeles Times

Marion Roach, who writes for the sisterproject.com, is based in New York.

I just had a birthday, and to honor such occasions, my sister always gives me silver. Not just any silver: It's our parents' simple wedding flatware pattern, which Margaret collects for me, one piece at a time. Over the years that the slender boxes have appeared, I've wondered if any of it is from the full service for 12 that I pulled in a suitcase through Manhattan's Diamond District and sold one dreadful day 25 years ago.

It had been my assignment to sell it—that, and a ring of Margaret's, one of mine and, right off our mother's finger, her engagement ring and platinum wedding band. The sum received was probably a quarter of their monetary worth, and nothing near their emotional value, but it financed two more weeks of home care for our mother, an Alzheimer's disease patient. After five years of caring for her at home, we had run through the family savings.

It was a few years before the sale of the silver that I first wrote about us, in a 1983 magazine article that, impossible as it may seem now, introduced Alzheimer's disease to millions of people who didn't know what it was, including the seasoned magazine editor to whom I first pitched the story. Sunday, HBO began a three-night series, produced by California's first lady, Maria Shriver, about a disease that now needs no introduction.

When I first wrote about Alzheimer's, I searched out some of the best minds of the time, including Lewis Thomas, the great science writer, former dean of Yale Medical School and then-chancellor of the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. He called Alzheimer's disease "the disease of the century" because, he said, "of all the health problems in the 20th century, this one is the worst."

That quote got people's attention, as did the words "angry, incompetent, hostile and incontinent," which is how I described my mother. She was then 51, two years younger than I am now. I exposed her for who she had become in exchange for the attention I hoped the article might bring for her disease.

In the months and years that followed, congressional hearings were held, state task forces were convened and city committees were formed. Research dollars were allotted as well. But those were the 1980s, when Ronald Reagan was president, and despite the fact that embryonic stem cell research had been conducted in the U.S. since the middle of the 20th century, contributing to such wonders as vaccines for both rubella and polio, it was rebranded and became strongly associated with abortion. In the years that followed, despite the well-known fact that stem cell research was the most promising path to finding cures for Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, diabetes, multiple sclerosis and other diseases, this country allowed the personal beliefs of the anti-abortion forces to become public policy. And that lasted a very long time.

The great art of political compromise is a fundamental part of our representative government. Deals are made in which one side cashes in some influence in order to move something along. This is what apparently happened last month, and shortly afterward, White House spokesman Reid Cherlin announced that President Barack Obama had "directed (the National Institutes of Health) to formulate the best method for moving forward with stem cell research, both ethically and scientifically."

In his grand exchange, the president traded away an essential piece of what he had only recently said he believed. When he campaigned, Obama said he supported the "therapeutic cloning of stem cells." But as president, he has already traded that position for one that some see as more politically realistic. Under the compromise plan, the president proposed that federal dollars be allowed to pay only for research on stem cell lines created from surplus fertility clinic embryos, but that funds continue to be barred from stem cell lines created in the laboratory to study particular diseases. Also barred is financial support for creating new, genetically matched stem cells for use in the treatment of disease. That is the very "therapeutic cloning" research that the president supported during his campaign.

After the president issued his executive order, many scientists shrugged; it was, they said, the compromise they'd expected.

I understand the value of a good trade, but I don't see what makes this one worthwhile. Every American, everybody everywhere, ought to support all possible efforts to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease. My mother was one of 4.5 million Americans with it; today there are 5.3 million, and by 2050, experts project 16 million American Alzheimer's patients, a surge that can be attributed partly to longer life spans and partly to increased diagnosis. Worldwide, 26.6 million people have it, with a mid-century surge expected to reach 100 million.

My family paid for home care with an exchange of goods; Medicaid paid for the next eight years of care in the nursing home, where my mother died at 64. Today, out-of-pocket costs for families caring for those with Alzheimer's and the other dementias are triple what they are for other illnesses, and the yearly cost to the U.S. economy is now at $148 billion. Every 70 seconds, someone develops the disease.

Years ago, as my sister began giving me pieces of silver, there again were the long, flat knife handles that I had gently fingered during Thanksgiving dinners, the forks I balanced on the backs of my hands as my parents told stories, the spoons from which I had fed the dog under the table. There was a time when I thought that people were supposed to have silver and china and crystal, and I expected to have them, choosing them at the time of my own wedding. It seemed a tribal currency that was securely in the bank. Merely silver, perhaps, but to me it had been gold bullion, a representation of the standard below which you did not slip.

Then the situation changed, and the flatware would be counted among the least of our losses during that awful time.

Right now, the NIH is formulating the research guidelines for the new stem cell policy and has opened a 30-day public comment period.

Here are mine: Not all trades are equal. Sell your stuff? That's easy. But never hock your values. You can't get those back a piece at a time.

Is 'resilience' what it's really about?

By JAMES RAINEY
(C) 2009, LOS ANGELES TIMES

The coverage of Elizabeth Edwards' new book and her promotional tour leaves us with two competing portraits. Is she: a) the valiant victim finally having her say for others who don't have a voice, or b) the unlikely opportunist, exacting revenge against her wayward husband and dragging her family back into the muck?

Over two presidential campaigns and a public battle with cancer, John Edwards' wife mostly benefited from the media's predilection for a single narrative. Profiles of Elizabeth the Brave proliferated, and none questioned the stability of her marriage or would conflict with the title of her current memoir, "Resilience."

But some in the commentariat have had enough. Maureen Dowd called Edwards out for dragging her husband "back into the public square for a flogging" over his affair with a onetime campaign videographer. Writer Rebecca Traister at Salon.com called the political wife's book tour "one of the most sadomasochistic publicity jaunts in political history."

After speaking to Elizabeth Edwards, former campaign aides and reporters who covered her over two presidential races, I can't report a single neat answer. More than five years after first meeting her on the campaign trail, I can only say this latest self-revelation inspires both tremendous compassion and tremendous compassion fatigue.

No one doubts that she has traversed a very tough road—the loss of her teenage son to a car accident, a prolonged bout with incurable cancer and the unfaithfulness of her husband, former Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina.

John Morrill of the Charlotte Observer, who has covered politics in the Tar Heel State for more than two decades, agreed with me that Elizabeth Edwards is a charming person who displayed a winning personality on the campaign circuit. He felt his paper had been tough but fair covering the Edwards family.

Like a lot of mainstream journalists, Morrill initially discounted the October 2007 report in the National Enquirer that said candidate Edwards had had an affair with a woman who had traveled with him making a series of short campaign videos.

"We just felt, 'This is the Enquirer.' And we felt like that was improbable," Morrill said. "His family had been such a part of the campaign, and such a presence on the campaign trail. I guess we were all snookered."

While the onus correctly falls on John Edwards, who has shrunk from the political scene, Morrill called Elizabeth Edwards "complicit in covering it up." It's hard to disagree.

"She said she didn't know about the prolonged nature of the affair until last summer. But, you know, I think they both have credibility problems now."

When Elizabeth Edwards called me Thursday afternoon, I asked: Did she feel any remorse about playing along with profiles that depicted hers as a loving and rock-solid marriage?

She said she never pretended that they had a perfect relationship, pointing back to her first memoir, published after his 2004 presidential run, in which she acknowledged that each of them occasionally had disappointed the other.

She said she felt so strongly committed to her husband's signature issues—fighting for universal health care and against poverty—"that gave me a very safe place to go, and I could talk with real conviction and not say something ... about which I would not feel comfortable."

She describes in her new book how, when her husband told her about the affair at the end of 2006, she asked him to drop out. But he persuaded her that a hasty exit, days after he had entered the presidential race, would provoke suspicion.

So, did she help support a run for president to cover up an affair?

No, she said, she believed what her husband told her: that he had strayed only one time. She felt that, if she had made peace with the indiscretion, it should not be of concern to others and did not need to be dragged into the campaign.

She acknowledged that her occasional absences from the campaign trail—described at the time as breaks or trips to help her ailing parents—were really designed to help her process a personal blow she and John Edwards had not worked through.

"I thought, 'I just can't do this right now.'"

Even CNN's Larry King, often a softball pitcher, pressed Elizabeth Edwards about the possibility that her husband could have won the Democratic nomination and lost the presidency to John McCain, had his indiscretion been belatedly confirmed.

Her answer—that her husband had convinced himself he would not be discovered—was as unsatisfying Thursday as when candidate Edwards gave his loyal campaign workers the same explanation months ago.

"We fought so hard against the story line that he was a big phony with a fancy haircut and a giant house," said one former aide, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to avoid alienating the couple. "And even though this story proved he was a phony on one level, it's still true that he cared about the right things and really wanted to make a difference."

I'm really getting tired of those kinds of rationalizations. But not so tired that they don't ring true.

Letter to the Editor

Crisis at CHC

It is well documented that there is a current significant shortage of physicians at the Commonwealth Health Center. The term crisis is often overused, but after reading the article in the May 13 *Saipan Tribune* about CHC losing another doctor, the only word that comes to my mind is what is going on? It is a crisis! Why can't CHC keep their doctors? Why are we short of five internal doctors? Why are there no nephrologists? His salary was going to be reduced by 20 percent and he left. Diabetes is widespread in the CNMI, and now we have no kidney doctor. Why is there no cardiologist or heart doctor? It's been years since we had a heart doctor at CHC. We are losing good doctors and CHC is ridiculously understaffed and the few remaining doctors are overworked and underpaid.

I was treated at the Emergency Room last Friday, and after being discharged, I was told to make an appointment to see an internist on Monday. When I tried to make an appointment, I was told to try again in June. No doctors were available. The few remaining doctors were fully booked. The CNMI's only surgeon was on vacation earlier this month and we had no surgeon on island during that period. That's a crisis.

We need to make a commitment to do everything possible to recruit suitable doctors to the CNMI right now. In my opinion, it is the most critical issue in the CNMI. The Medical Referral Office spends millions of dollars every year sending patients off island for treatment. Let's spend some of that money to pay the doctors that are recruited a descent salary so that they stick around a while. Hire the specialists we require. I urge everyone to talk to the governor, the Legislature and hospital administrator. The crisis at CHC is a time bomb waiting to explode.

Beatrice Borja Peredo Troup
San Vicente, Saipan

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Mostly sunny with a slight chance of showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°	▲87° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

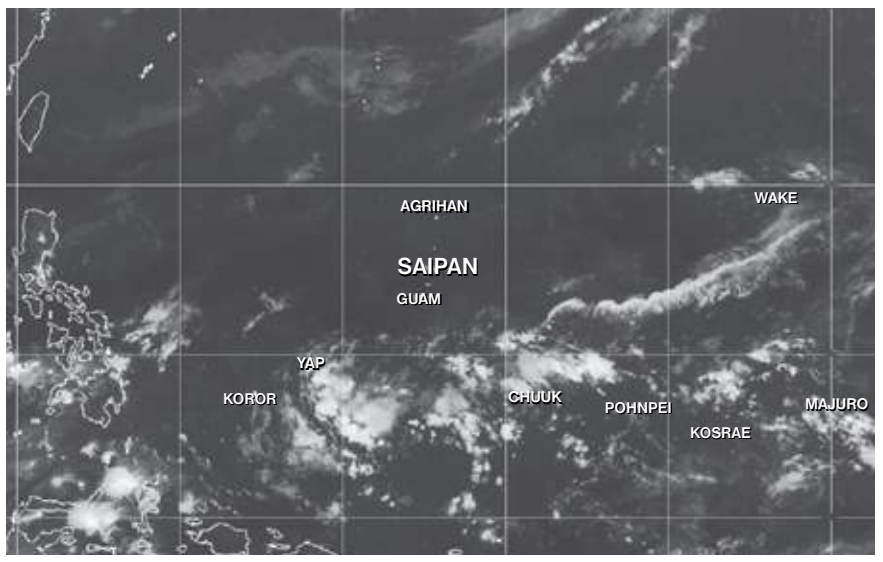
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Sunny	▲84	▼75
Palau	Showers	▲86	▼77
Yap	Showers	▲86	▼78
Chuuk	Rain	▲88	▼77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲85	▼77
Kosrae	Rain	▲90	▼78
Majuro	Showers	▲85	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲65	▼58
Beijing	Cloudy	▲81	▼55
Hong Kong	Cloudy	▲90	▼77
Honolulu	Mostly Cloudy	▲82	▼69
London	Showers	▲61	▼46
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲84	▼62
Manila	Showers	▲88	▼77
Melbourne	Showers	▲60	▼47
Miami	Thundershowers	▲82	▼73
New York	Thundershowers	▲73	▼57
Osaka	Showers	▲63	▼62
Paris	Showers	▲57	▼47
Pusan	Rain	▲73	▼58
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲62	▼49
Salem	Partly Sunny	▲76	▼46
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲81	▼54
Seoul	Rain	▲70	▼50
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲65	▼55
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲79	▼63

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00AM, FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near-equatorial trough extends southeastward from 4N130E to EQ145E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are located southeast of Koror near the trough axis in an area bounded by a line from 6N138E to EQ142E to EQ140E to 4N135E back to 6N138E. Another area of scattered showers is located within 25 miles of a line from Yap to 8N139E. A surface trough extends southward from 10N145E to 5N144E. Converging winds near the trough are generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of the Marianas within 90 miles of a line from 10N143E to 6N148E. A surface trough extends southward from 10N155E to 2N158E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found near and east of the trough axis between 2N and 10N from 155E to 160E. Another area of scattered showers can be found within 50 miles of a line from Chuuk to 4N150E to EQ150E. Converging trade winds are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within 110 miles of a line from 8N160E to Kwajalein.

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
1:26 AM Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
7:07 AM Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet
11:05 AM Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
6:42 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:48 AM	6:39 PM
Sunday	5:48 AM	6:39 PM
Monday	5:48 AM	6:39 PM
Tuesday	5:47 AM	6:40 PM
Wednesday	5:47 AM	6:40 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today		11:17 AM
Sunday	12:15 AM	12:06 PM
Monday	12:52 AM	12:54 PM
Tuesday	1:28 AM	1:43 PM
Wednesday	2:04 AM	2:23 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 9, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

CO9597	11:50am	12:25pm	1,7

SAIPAN-GUAM

CO9317	4:30am	5:20am	Daily
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
CO9597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

CO9598	2:20am	2:50am	5, 6
CO9312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-PALAU (ROR)

CO893	5:50pm	6:50pm	3, 5
CO953	6:50pm	7:50pm	1, 7
CO953	7:35pm	10:05pm	2, 4, 6

PALAU (ROR)-MANILA

CO893	7:35pm	9:10pm	3, 5

GUAM-MANILA

CO893	5:50pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via ROR
CO933	7:00pm	8:40pm	Daily
PR111	6:00am	7:45am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

NW99	6:00am	8:40am	Daily
NW78	9:00am	2:05pm	Daily via NGO
NW75	3:50pm	6:25am	Daily

GUAM-NARITA (NRT)

CO961	6:35am	9:10am	Daily
NW83	8:00am	1:55pm	Daily via KIX
CO6	12:00pm	2:45pm	Daily
NW73	4:05pm	7:00pm	Daily
CO963	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	1
OZ119	4:20am	7:00am	4,6

GUAM-OSAKA (KIX)

NW83	8:00am	10:45am	Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)

NW78	9:00am	11:40am	Daily

GUAM-NAGOYA (NGO)

CO971	7:45am	10:30am	Daily
NW23	4:10pm	7:05pm	Daily
CO975	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	excl 1
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1 via KIX
OZ119	4:20am	11:20am	4, 6 via KIX

SEOUL (ICN)-HONG KONG

OZ721	9:05am	11:45am	Daily
OZ723	7:45pm	10:30pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-MANILA

OZ701	8:35am	11:25am	Daily
OZ703	7:50pm	10:50pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

CO9598	3:25am	4:00am	5, 6
CO9312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

CO9316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
CO9598	2:20am	4:00am	5, 6 via ROP
CO9596	7:00am	5:00am	Daily
CO9600	10:20am	11:10am	Daily x6
CO9312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

CO9597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

PALAU (ROR)-GUAM

CO954	1:10am	5:30am	3, 5, 7
CO954	1:45am	4:40am	1, 2
CO892	2:35am	5:30am	4, 6

MANILA-PALAU (ROR)

CO892	10:10pm	1:50am+1	3, 5

MANILA-GUAM

CO892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	3, 5 via ROR
CO934	10:55pm	4:30am+1	Daily
PR110	10:00pm	4:00am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

NW76	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
NW77	6:30pm	1:40am+1	Daily via NGO
NW100	7:50pm	12:30am+1	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-GUAM

NW74	10:00am	2:50pm	Daily
CO962	10:30am	3:00pm	Daily
CO7	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
NW84	6:20pm	1:40am+1	Daily
CO964	8:25pm	1:00am+1	Daily
NW82	8:30pm	1:05am+1	4
NW82	8:30pm	1:20am+1	X 4

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	3, 5, 6

OSAKA (KIX)-GUAM

NW84	9:05pm	1:40am+1	Daily

NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN

NW77	9:10pm	1:40am	Daily

NAGOYA (NGO)-GUAM

NW24	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
CO970	11:30am	4:30pm	Daily
CO972	8:25pm	12:55am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	3, 5, 6 via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	excl 7

HONG KONG-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ724	12:30am	5:05am	Daily
OZ722	1:15pm	5:45pm	Daily

MANILA-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ702	12:45pm	5:45pm	Daily
OZ704	11:50pm	4:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

Schedule of Religious Services

CATHOLIC

Mt. Carmel Cathedral
Sunday Mass: 6am, 9am, 11am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm

Korean Center
Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

Kristo Rai Parish
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am
Monday- Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm
Saturday: 6am and 6pm

Nuestra Senora De Soledad Parish
Wednesday Mass: 6pm
First Friday Healing Mass: 6pm
Saturday Mass: 6pm
Sunday Masses: 7:30am & 9am

Saint Jude Parish
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Wednesday and Thursday: 6pm

San Antonio Parish
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Tuesday and Friday: 6pm

San Francisco de Borja-Rota
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6pm

San Isidro-Rota
Sunday: 5am and 10am
Monday-Wednesday: 7pm
Thursday-Saturday: 5am and 7pm

San Jose (Oleai) Parish
Sunday: 6am and 7:30am
Tuesday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday: 6pm

San Roque Parish
Sunday: 9am
Wednesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10:30am

San Vicente Parish
Sunday: 6am, 9am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6pm

Santa Remedios
Sunday: 7:30am
Tuesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10am-Baptism

Santa Soledad
Sunday: 7:30am

PROTESTANT

Born Again Christian (Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm

Chinese Christian Church of Saipan
Worship Services: Sunday, 10am and 7:30pm
Bible Study: Tuesday-Friday, 9:25pm

Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan
Worship/Study Opportunities
Adult Sunday School: 9am
Youth Sunday School: 9am
English Worship Service Sunday: 10am
Sunday Service: 5:30pm
Worship/Fellowship Sunday: 9:30pm
Evangelism/Follow-up: Sunday/Monday: 1:30/7:30pm
Worship Team: Monday/Saturday-9pm;
Cell Groups Tuesday: 7:30pm
Mid-week Service: 7:30pm
Prayer Meeting Wednesday: 7:30pm
Leader's Bible Study Friday: 7:30 pm
Cornerstone School of Ministry Saturday: 7:30pm

Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am
Place: Vicarage, Chalan Laulau,
Call 235-0545 for directions

Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan
Worship Service: 9am
GBI Classes: 4-6pm
Prayer Meeting: Monday-Saturday: 6am
Sunday: 7am
Home Cell Bible Study: Wednesday-Friday: 7pm
Youth Service: Friday: 5:30pm

Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan
Wednesday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (English)
Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

Immanuel United Methodist Church Koblerville
Sunday Services
9:00 AM
Place of the church-next to Mt. Carmel Cathedral on Chalan Kanoa Dr. • Tel: 322-6158
Pastor JJ Matsumoto

Immanuel Methodist Church (Filipino Congregation)
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)

Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan
English Service: 9-11am, Sunday
Tagalog Service: 6-8pm, Sunday

Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 8:20am
Sunday Adult: 10am
Sunday Adult: 11:30am
Sunday Evening: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 8pm

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 10am–12noon
Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm
Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm
Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm
Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm
Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan
English Worship Service: 9-10:30am
Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm
Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am
Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm
English Sunday School: 11am-12pm
Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting:
English, 7pm-8pm
Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

Missions Connection Ministry
Every Sunday Celebrations:
10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm
Youth Impact Friday: 7pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

Northern Marianas Christian Church
Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisu Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided)
Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisu FS#1 for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620

Saipan Bible Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30-10am
Divine Worship: 10am-11:30am
Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

Saipan Christian Church
Sunday: 7:30am-10am
Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

Saipan Church of Christ
Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 6pm
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 7pm
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30pm

Saipan Community Church
(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan
(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

First Baptist Church
(Formerly Saipan Baptist Church)
Afetna St., San Antonio
Sunday

9am	Sunday school
10am	Regular worship
6pm	worship

Wednesday

7pm	worship

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church. For further information, please call Pastor David M. Mclure at 234-1939/235-7779.

Thy Word Ministries Saipan Faith Center
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi
Service Times
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

Upper Room International Ministries
Sunday 5:30am-6:30am Morning prayer

7am-9am	English service
7am-9am	Sunday school
10am-12noon	English service, Koblerville
Wednesday 7pm-9pm	Prayer meeting
Saturday 7pm-9pm	Tagalog service

Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church
Gualo Rai, Saipan

Victory Chapel Christian Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday AM Worship:10:30am
Sunday PM Worship:7:00am
Wed Worship: 7:30pm
Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times
Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

MAY 16, 2000

Kumoi: Audit senators

Expenditures by senators came under close scrutiny after a colleague asked the Office of Public Auditor yesterday to determine how taxpayers' dollars are spent by the Senate whether or not they pass the test of the "public purpose" law. Sen. Ramon S. Guerrero expressed dismay and disappointment over major expenditures made by his colleagues in recent months following a disclosure by Finance Sec. Lucy DLG. Nielsen in response to his request for these documents. The stack of documents that he made public to the media revealed what he said are questionable expenditures, including a $4,000 down payment for a car, thousands of dollars worth of fruits, flowers and fruit baskets given to hospital patients, and restaurant bills that amount up to $2,000.

Babauta agrees to vacate office in 15 days

CNMI Representative to Washington Juan N. Babauta will vacate his office in 15 days and move to the official residence of House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial in Capitol Hill. This was the agreement entered into by both Mr. Babauta and Mr. Fitial during a hearing before the Superior Court on the motion of the Washington Representative to stop the relocation of his office. Superior Court Associate Judge Juan T. Lizama expressed satisfaction on the agreement signed by both parties as the court seem to find it hard to make a ruling on what it considered a political issue. In fact, Mr. Lizama expressed surprised why both parties have to bring the issue to court only to come up with a compromise.

MAY 16, 2001

Takeover threats pulled down user fee collection

Customs Director Jose C, Mafnas yesterday blamed revived federal takeover threats on the significant decline in the amount of garment user fee collections in calendar year 2000. Aside from federalization threats, protectionist investment measures implemented by the CNMI government have also been discouraging expansion of existing investments, while virtually blocking the entry of new business ventures. User fee collections plunged 4.3 percent last year to $37.6 million from the previous year's $39.3 million, revealed a fourth quarter Department of Commerce report on economic indicators. "In a way all those talk about federal takeover last year probably turned off not a few garment suppliers, which may account for the fall in user fee collected in 2000," Mr. Mafnas said.

CNMI stands firm vs. takeover

The CNMI government is crafting strong measures to block latest attempt in the US Congress to extend federal immigration and labor laws into the Northern Marianas, Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio disclosed yesterday. Mr. Tenorio said his administration will continue urging the US Congress to abandon proposed measures that would federalize the Commonwealth's labor and immigration systems. He stressed the CNMI is ready to defend the Commonwealth government's stand to retain local control of immigration and minimum wage before the US Congress when hearings on federal takeover legislation begin.

MAY 16, 2002

Senate coup goes pffft

The leadership coup attempt at the Senate has fizzled out, after Tinian Sen. Jose Dela Cruz turned down the offer to supplant Sen. Paul A. Manglona as Senate President. Saying he feels the present Senate leadership should remain intact, Dela Cruz said he made his decision to stick with the present leadership after consulting with his family, friends and supporters. Although guarded in his comments, Manglona later said he is always of the belief that the senators have a lot of things to do in the Senate and the 13th Legislature. "One issue or disagreement should not get in the way of the bigger things ahead that we have to address for the good of the CNMI," he said when asked to comment on this new development.

'Resignation not intended to create new leadership'

Making good on his promise, Senate Vice President David M. Cing has resigned from the Senate leadership, effective Friday. In a two-page letter that cited two instances of what he described as "betrayals" by Senate President Paul A. Manglona, Cing resigned as vice president of the upper chamber and as chairman of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations. He added, though, that despite his resignation from the leadership, "I will continue to work in the best interests of the people of the Commonwealth, whether it be as a member of a new leadership, or as a minority member of the Senate. Politics aside, it is the good of the people that is paramount."

Business

Chrysler targeting 800 dealers in reorganization

DETROIT (AP)—In tiny Millerstown, Pa., the owner of the only car dealership in town found out Thursday he was on Chrysler's hit list— one of 789 across the nation that the troubled automaker wants to eliminate.

"It's really, really a blow," Jeff Potter, whose family owns the dealership, said after hearing the news from a customer who spotted the closing list on the Internet. "When you talk about being here 34 years, it's my life."

Chrysler disclosed in a bankruptcy filing Thursday that it wants to close a quarter of its dealers in a matter of weeks, a strategy that might help save the company but would wipe out thousands of jobs.

With General Motors Corp. expected to announce it will close about 1,100 dealerships, the crisis in the auto industry is reaching the front doors of Americans who live far from Detroit.

Millerstown Chrysler will try to survive by selling used cars. Otherwise, the town of 700 will lose one of its largest employers and a major source of tax revenue. And in other communities that depend on dealers for everything from newspaper advertising to Little League sponsorships, the ripple effect could be devastating. Dealerships on the closing list are in every state but Alaska.

The National Automobile Dealers Association says about 40,000 people work at the affected dealerships. Many will keep their jobs, but their dealerships will be left to sell only the other brands in their showrooms, or used cars.

Chrysler said in its filing that sales are too low at many of the dealerships. Half its dealers account for 90 percent of its sales, and the company is trying to cut poor performers that compete for the same customers.

Dealers learned their fates in letters Thursday morning. The effects will go much further than their bottom lines.

Bart Wolf, the general sales manager at Wolf's Motor Car Co. in Plymouth, Wis., estimated he donated an average of $10,000 per year for local high school and middle school events, supporting band trips and athletic activities.

"The way things are going now, that could be cut down to under $2,000," he said. "It's hard to say no to anyone, but this could make things tough."

Local media will feel the pinch, too. The average new car dealer spent $341,000 on advertising last year, said Paul Taylor, NADA's chief economist. About a quarter went to newspapers, which are already in a struggle for survival.

GM says it could sell assets to a new firm in Chapter 11

DETROIT (AP)—General Motors Corp. says it likely would sell most of its assets to a new company and liquidate the rest if it has to seek bankruptcy protection.

The company made the disclosure Thursday in a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission. It has said bankruptcy is possible if it doesn't get enough takers on an offer to swap $27 billion in bond debt for stock.

The automaker also says it could seek court approval of its reorganization plan even if creditors vote against it.

GM offered last month to give bondholders 225 shares for every $1,000 worth of bonds. The company would issue 62 billion new shares and then do a 100-for-1 reverse stock split.

Bondholders would end up with 10 percent of the company's shares under the offer, which expires May 26. But a committee representing the bondholders has counteroffered seeking a 58 percent ownership stake.

GM has received $15.4 billion in U.S. government loans and faces a June 1 deadline to finish restructuring or head into Chapter 11 reorganization.

Under a capital structure proposed by GM but still under negotiation, the U.S. government would get 50 percent of the company for its loans. GM has said it will need another $2.6 billion in May and $9 billion more for the remainder of the year.

A UAW-run trust that will take over retiree health care costs starting next year would get 39 percent of the stock, in exchange for half of the $20 billion that the company owes the trust. Existing shareholders would get roughly 1 percent of the stock.

A key issue for GM is getting 90 percent of its bondholders to accept a debt-exchange offer.

CEO Fritz Henderson essentially rejected the counteroffer, saying GM can't do it because it has been told by the Treasury Department that it can't give more than 10 percent equity to the bondholders.

The Detroit automaker lost $30.9 billion last year. To finish restructuring it must cut its bond debt, reduce labor costs and thin itself down to a point at which the government believes it can be competitive.

Nation

Pelosi: CIA misled her on waterboarding

WASHINGTON (AP)—House Speaker Nancy Pelosi bluntly accused the CIA on Thursday of misleading her and other lawmakers about its use of waterboarding during the Bush administration, escalating a controversy grown to include both political parties, the spy agency and the White House.

"It is not the policy of this agency to mislead the United States Congress," responded CIA spokesman George Little, although he refused to answer directly when asked whether Pelosi's accusation was accurate.

But the House's top Democrat, speaking at a news conference in the Capitol, was unequivocal about a CIA briefing she received in the fall of 2002.

"We were told that waterboarding was not being used," the speaker said. "That's the only mention, that they were not using it. And we now know that earlier they were." She suggested the CIA release the briefing material.

Pelosi also vehemently disputed Republican charges that she was complicit in the use of waterboarding, and she suggested the GOP was trying to shift the focus of public attention away from the Bush administration's use of techniques that she and President Barack Obama have described as torture.

Pelosi

Coincidentally, Pelosi spoke as the CIA rejected former Vice President Dick Cheney's request to release secret memos judging whether waterboarding and other harsh techniques had succeeded in securing valuable intelligence information.

CIA spokesman Paul Gimigliano said the request was turned down because the documents are the subject of pending litigation, which makes them not subject to declassification.

Pelosi has been the target of a campaign orchestrated in recent days by the House Republican leadership, which is eager to undercut her statements as well as stick Democrats with partial responsibility for the use of waterboarding—a kind of simulated drowning—in the Bush administration. GOP officials secured the release of an unclassified chart by the CIA that describes a total of 40 briefings for lawmakers over a period of several years. Pelosi's name appears once, as having attended a session on Sept. 4, 2002, when she was the senior Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee. Former Rep. Porter Goss, R-Fla., who at the time was the chairman of the committee and later became CIA director, also was present.

The notation says the briefing was on "enhanced interrogation techniques on Abu Zubaydah ... and a description of the particular EITs that had been employed."

House votes $97 billion war funds, despite doubts

WASHINGTON (AP)—Despite Democrats' rising anxiety about Afghanistan, the House on Thursday easily passed a $96.7 billion measure filling President Barack Obama's request for war spending and foreign aid efforts there and in Iraq.

Some 51 Democrats broke with Obama, who is sending thousands more troops into Afghanistan, but all but a handful of Republicans stood behind the president to produce a 368-60 tally. Republicans supported the measure even though majority Democrats added almost $12 billion to Obama's $85 billion request.

The measure would boost total funding provided by Congress for the Iraq and Afghanistan wars above $900 billion.

Across Capitol Hill, a key Senate committee approved a companion $91.3 billion bill that sticks closely to Obama's war request—including $50 million for the Pentagon to begin the promised closure of the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The issue of closing Guantanamo is addressed in the House measure as well—not with funding but with a promise that detainees from the prison will not be released on U.S. soil. A new provision, however, anticipates some of the 241 detainees at Guantanamo will be transferred to the United States to stand trial or serve their sentences.

A separate conflict over the war-funding measure concerns whether it should provide a $108 billion U.S. contribution to the International Monetary Fund as part of an expanded $500 billion IMF loan fund, a cornerstone of last month's Group of 20 nations summit in London to assist poor countries struggling through the global economic downturn.

Obama officially requested the IMF funding late Tuesday, and the request was immediately incorporated into the Senate version by Appropriations Committee Chairman Daniel Inouye of Hawaii. The IMF funds would cost U.S. taxpayers about $5 billion since the government is issued interest-bearing assets in return for the contribution.

House Republicans oppose adding the IMF funds to the war-funding measure, and their votes will be needed to pass the final House-Senate compromise bill, given the opposition of anti-war Democrats.

Let there be light: Camera hooked up for Hubble

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—A pair of spacewalking astronauts overpowered a stubborn bolt and successfully installed a new piano-sized camera in the Hubble Space Telescope on Thursday, the first step to making the observatory better than ever.

"Let there be light," spacewalker John Grunsfeld said as ground controllers checked the power hookups.

Grunsfeld and Andrew Feustel also completed other major chores, replacing a science data-handling unit that broke last fall and hooking up a docking ring so a robotic craft can guide Hubble into the Pacific years from now.

The nearly 7 1/2-hour repair job—all the more dangerous because of the high, debris-ridden orbit—got off to a slow and rocky start.

John Grunsfeld and Andrew Feustel had trouble removing the old camera from the telescope because a bolt was stuck. They fetched extra tools, but none seemed to work.

Finally, Mission Control urged the astronauts to use as much force as possible, even though there was a risk the bolt might break. If that had happened, the old camera would have been stuck inside, leaving no room for its souped-up replacement.

"OK, here we go," Feustel said. "I think I've got it. It turned. It definitely turned." And then: "Woo-hoo, it's moving out!"

The extra effort paid off but put the astronauts a little behind schedule in their first spacewalk of shuttle Atlantis' mission. In all, five high-risk spacewalks are planned to fix Hubble's broken parts and plug in higher-tech science instruments.

AP

In this image from NASA TV astronaut Drew Feustel is reflected on the surface of the Hubble Space Telescope as he makes repairs on the observatory during a spacewalk from Shuttle Atlantis, Thursday, May 14, 2009.

Atlantis and its crew are traveling in an especially high orbit, 350 miles above Earth, that is littered with pieces of smashed satellites. A 4-inch piece of space junk passed within a couple miles of the shuttle Wednesday night, just hours after the shuttle grabbed Hubble. Even something that small could cause big damage.

For the first time, another shuttle is on standby in case it needs to rush to the rescue.

Once the bolt was freed, Feustel pulled out the old camera, the size of a baby grand piano.

"This has been in there for 16 years, Drew," said Grunsfeld, "and it didn't want to come out."

The spacewalkers followed up with the installation of the new camera. From inside Atlantis, spacewalk overseer Michael Massimino congratulated Grunsfeld and Feustel for "adjusting to the curve ball that was thrown at you."

The initial bolt problems caused some anxiety for Hubble officials on the ground.

"I'm five years older now than when I came to work this morning," Hubble senior scientist David Leckrone said during an afternoon news conference. "I just hope the rest of the mission is a little bit smoother."

Man convicted in lucrative body parts scheme

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A man was convicted Thursday of carving up cadavers donated to UCLA's medical school and selling the parts to unsuspecting medical research companies in a $1.5 million scheme.

Jurors found Ernest Nelson, 51, guilty of eight counts, including grand theft and tax evasion. Prosecutors said Nelson could face a maximum of 12 years in prison and they want him to repay $1.5 million to UCLA.

Nelson "was willing to go into a willed body program and cut up body parts for his own personal financial gain," prosecutor Marisa Zarate said after the verdict.

Defense attorney Sean McDonald said he was disappointed by the verdict and left court without further comment.

Prosecutors said Nelson and Henry Reid, the former director of UCLA's Willed Body Program, devised the scam in 1999.

Nelson, who ran a business transporting body parts to hospitals and medical research firms, has said he thought the sales were authorized by the university.

Prosecutors said he bought the donated torsos, cut them up and kept them frozen in a rented warehouse until they were sold to companies that didn't know they had been improperly obtained.

Nelson, of Rancho Cucamonga, used cashier's checks to pay Reid a total of $43,000 in 1999, Zarate said. Other payments were made in cash and weren't documented, she said.

The plan unraveled after a state health investigator became concerned about a sale in 2003 and contacted UCLA.

Reid has pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit grand theft and was sentenced to more than four years in prison.

ACROSS THE NATION

NH governor backs gay marriage

CONCORD, N.H. (AP)—Gov. John Lynch said Thursday he will sign a bill to make his state the sixth to legalize gay marriage as soon as the Legislature makes some changes, which legislative leaders immediately said they would back. Lynch asked that the already-approved legislation be revised to better protect churches and their employees against lawsuits if their beliefs preclude them from marrying gays. Gay marriage supporters said they do not object. "Throughout history, our society's views of civil rights have constantly evolved and expanded," Lynch told reporters. "New Hampshire's great tradition has always been to come down on the side of individual liberties and protections."

2 convicted killers executed in Okla., Ala.

McALESTER, Okla. (AP)—A man convicted of battering his girlfriend's 8-year-old son and stuffing the body in a freezer was put to death Thursday in Oklahoma, while a man in Alabama was executed for fatally stabbing a mother of six. Donald Lee Gilson, 48, proclaimed his innocence in the death of Shane Coffman before he was injected in Oklahoma with a lethal combination of drugs. "I'm an innocent man but ... I get to go to heaven and I'll see Shane tonight," he said in his final statement. He was pronounced dead at 6:19 p.m. Gilson's parents, sister, a friend and a pastor witnessed the execution, and about a dozen members of the victim's family watched from behind a one-way glass.

US Mint unveils new Lincoln penny in Indiana

LINCOLN CITY, Ind. (AP)—Nearly 3,000 people gathered at a southern Indiana park for the release of a new penny that pays homage to Abraham Lincoln's years as a Hoosier. The penny's release Thursday at Lincoln State Park created traffic jams and a quarter-mile-long line filled with coin collectors and Lincoln enthusiasts carrying umbrellas to ward off the rain. Some waited for hours to get rolls of the newly minted coins that depict—on the back side—a teenage Lincoln reading a book while taking a break from rail splitting. Lincoln lived from age 7 to 21 in Spencer County in an area about 30 miles northeast of Evansville.

World

US journalist freed from Iran arrives in Austria

VIENNA (AP)—Roxana Saberi, the American journalist freed after about four months in an Iranian prison on spying charges left the country, flying to the Austrian capital with her parents and a friend early Friday.

After landing at the airport, Saberi said she planned to spend a few days in Vienna to recover from her ordeal.

"I came to Vienna because I heard it was a calm and relaxing place," Saberi said. "I know you have many questions but I need some more time to think about what happened to me over the past couple of days."

Her father, Reza Saberi, said they were staying with a friend in Austria.

Saberi, poised and smiling, thanked all those who supported her during her ordeal—including Austria's ambassador to Iran and his family.

"Both journalists and non-journalists around the world, I've been hearing, supported me very much and it was very moving for me to hear this," Saberi said.

Saberi, referring to several statements made about her case over the past few days, stressed she was the only one who knew what really happened.

"Nobody knows about it as well as I do and I will talk about it more in the future, I hope, but I am not prepared at this time," she said.

AP

US-Iranian journalist Roxana Saberi speaks with media outside her house in Tehran on Tuesday May 12, 2009 as her father Reza, left, and another unidentified relative look on.

The 32-year-old journalist, who grew up in Fargo, North Dakota, and moved to Iran six years ago, was arrested in late January and was convicted of spying for the United States in a brief, closed-door trial that her Iranian-born father said lasted only 15 minutes.

She was freed on Monday and reunited with her parents, who had come to Iran to seek her release, after an appeals court reduced her sentence to a two-year suspended sentence.

The United States had said the charges against Saberi were baseless and repeatedly demanded her release. The case against her had become an obstacle to President Barack Obama's attempts at dialogue with the top U.S. adversary in the Middle East.

At one point, Saberi held a hunger strike to protest her imprisonment, but she ended it after two weeks when her parents, visiting her in prison, asked her to stop because her health was weakening.

Saberi had worked as a freelance journalist for several organizations, including National Public Radio and the British Broadcasting Corp.

WHO meets on production of swine flu vaccine

GENEVA (AP)—As swine flu cases topped 6,600 worldwide, vaccine makers and other experts met Thursday at the World Health Organization to discuss the tough decisions that must be made quickly to fight the evolving virus.

Pharmaceutical companies are ready to begin making a swine flu vaccine—but as the virus may mutate, questions abound: How much should be produced? How will it be distributed? Who should get it?

The expert group's recommendations will be passed to WHO Director-General Margaret Chan, who is expected to issue advice to vaccine manufacturers and the World Health Assembly next week.

WHO's flu chief said the meeting of industry representatives and independent experts sought to answer questions including when to recommend to manufacturers that they switch from a seasonal vaccine to one that works against the pandemic strain.

"No big decisions, no announcements," Keiji Fukuda told reporters after the meeting. "These are enormously complicated questions, and they are not something that anyone can make in a single meeting."

But some feel the main decision has already been made.

"It's a foregone conclusion," said David Fedson, a vaccines expert and former professor of medicine at the University of Virginia. "If we don't invest in an H1N1 (swine flu) vaccine, then possibly we could have a reappearance of this virus in a mild, moderate, or catastrophic form and we would have absolutely nothing."

Most flu vaccine companies can only make one vaccine at a time: seasonal flu vaccine or pandemic vaccine. Production takes months and it is impossible to switch halfway through if health officials make a mistake.

Netanyahu urges pope to condemn Iranian threats

NAZARETH, Israel (AP)—Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu appealed to Pope Benedict XVI to "make his voice heard loud" against Iran's call for the destruction of the Jewish state. But his focus on Iran did not mask a key difference with the pontiff over whether Palestinians deserve a state of their own.

The two men met a day after the pope made a powerful call for Palestinian statehood, a concept that Netanyahu has refused to endorse. They held 15 minutes of face-to-face talks, which the Vatican said "centered on how the peace process can be advanced."

But in televised remarks following the talks, Netanyahu did not mention the Palestinian issue, focusing instead on Iran.

"I asked him, as a moral figure, to make his voice heard loud and continuously against the declarations coming from Iran of their intention to destroy Israel," Netanyahu said of his talks with the pope.

"I told him it cannot be that at the beginning of the 21st century, there is a state which says it is going to destroy the Jewish state, and there is no aggressive voice being heard condemning this," the Israeli leader told Israel TV.

He said Benedict said "he condemns all such things, anti-Semitism, hate," adding: "I think we found in him an attentive ear."

WORLD BRIEFS

Ending Mideast trip, pope to visit Holy Sepulcher

JERUSALEM (AP)—Pope Benedict XVI is capping his Mideast visit by putting aside the contentious issues he has confronted over the past week and making a pilgrimage to a church revered as the site of Jesus' crucifixion. Making his first visit to the Holy Land as pontiff, the pope has addressed the Holocaust, Israeli-Palestinian politics and the dwindling number of Christians in the region. Hundreds of soldiers and policemen are deployed for the pope's visit Friday to the ancient Church of the Holy Sepulcher, which tradition holds marks the site of Jesus' crucifixion, burial and resurrection. A Catholic priest at the church says it is special that the pope is coming there on his last day. Father Bernt says the church is "the most important place for us."

Myanmar democracy activist charged by junta

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi was charged Thursday with breaking the terms of her house arrest just two weeks before she was to go free, a move seen as an attempt by the military junta to silence its chief opponent ahead of next year's election. The charges follow a mysterious visit to her home by John William Yettaw, 53, of Falcon, Mo., who swam across a lake and sneaked into her home seeking food and a place to rest. Suu Kyi, who was scheduled to be freed May 27 after six years of house arrest, now faces up to five years in prison if convicted of violating the terms of her detention, said lawyer Hla Myo Myint.

Members of banned group help Pakistan war refugees

MARDAN, Pakistan (AP)—Members of a charity banned for its alleged links to the Mumbai terror attack have resurfaced in northwestern Pakistan under a new name, distributing food and medicine Thursday among thousands of refugees from the government's bloody fight against the Taliban. The makeover of Jamaat-ud-Dawa raises awkward questions for the embattled government, which has been trying hard to convince its skeptical Western sponsors that it is serious about taming Islamist extremism. The offensive against Taliban insurgents in the Swat Valley area, the largest in months, has driven about 800,000 people from their homes, with 80,000 sweltering in camps south of the battle zone.

Northern Mariana Islands RETIREMENT FUND

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC, Division 9, §9910, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the NMI Retirement Fund Board of Trustees/Workers' Compensation Commission/Group Health & Life Insurance Trust Fund, are hereby giving notice that the Board of Trustees will hold its ***Regular*** meeting on **Tuesday, May 19, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.** at the **NMI Retirement Fund Conference Room, Saipan.**

AGENDA

I. **PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Adoption of Agenda
- D. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting:
  1. February 27, 2009
  2. April 13, 2009

II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

III. **REPORTS**
- A. Report of the Chairman
  1. ROC No. 09-005
- B. Report of the Administrator / Correspondence
  1. ROA No. 09-005
     a) Status Updates
- C. Report of the Comptroller
  1. Financials
     a) NMIRF
     b) GHLITF
     c) WCC
  2. Drawdown Requests
  3. CGECU Status Update
- D. Reports of the Committees
  1. Finance & Investment Committee
  2. Operations & Personnel Committee
  3. Policies, Programs & Legislative Review Committee
  4. GH&L and WCC Committee
- E. Reports of the Investment Director
  1. Status of Investment/Market Condition
  2. Report of Housing Loan Program
  3. MPLT Fee Sharing Proposal - Update
- F. Communications
  1. Internal Auditor Reports
- G. Other Matters

IV. **LEGAL MATTERS**
- A. Reports of the Legal Counsels
  1. Report of the Board Counsel
     a) Lawsuit
     b) Other Legal Matters
  2. Report of the In-house Counsel
     a) Update on Administrative Appeals
  3. Report of the Hearing Officer

V. **OLD BUSINESS**
- 1. BR 08-001 Matters
  a) Pension Application Matters
  b) P.L. 15-98
  c) Disability Applicants
- 2. Portfolio Monitoring Program (Coughlin Stoia Geller Rudman & Robbins LLP)
- 3. RFP Rota Office Space

VI. **NEW BUSINESS**
- 1. Appeal of B.DLC. Taisacan (NMIRF Case No. 09-007)
- 2. Appeal of J.B. Dris (NMIRF Case No. 09-008)
- 3. Appeal of I.S. Piteg (NMIRF Case No. 08-001)
- 4. Appeal of W.S. Torres (NMIRF Case NO. 09-009)
- 5. Board Resolution – Non-Recognition of Post-Retirement Adoptions
- 6. Commission Recapture
- 7. Board Resolution - Proportionate Pensions
- 8. Old/New Trustee Matters

VII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

VIII. **MISCELLANEOUS**
- A. Announcements
- B. Next Meeting
- C. Adjournment

/s/ JUAN T. GUERRERO
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Maharlika

PINOY LIFE IN THE MARIANAS

Saturday, May 16, 2009

AS HOST FOR NEXT YEAR'S APILG MEET:

It's a toss-up between 2 RP mayors

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two mayors from the Philippines—James Gordon of Olongapo City in Zambales province and Epifanio Sandoval of San Nicolas in Batangas province—are competing for the right to host next year's meeting of the Association of Pacific Islands Local Governments.

The two have presented their objectives and what their respective areas can offer before participants of the ongoing Second Annual Pacific Mayors' Conference yesterday, which was reduced from last year's 450 in Guam to just over a hundred this time on Saipan due to the economic downtrend and the threat of the H1N1 flu virus.

The AILG officers, led by Agana Heights, Guam Mayor Paul M. McDonald, have yet to decide on this and the result will be known before the end of the four-day conference.

The participants include 10 mayors and one vice mayor from Guam, two mayors from Kosrae, eight mayors, a vice mayor, and more than 20 municipal councilors from four provinces in Central and Southern Luzon.

They are currently on Tinian for a tour.

Gordon said they are excited about hosting the next edition of the conference but the decision is up to the APILG officers.

He said Olongapo City, which used to host a U.S. military base, can best offer the services for an international conference like this.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Mayors from the Philippines join Consul General Wilfredo DL. Maximo during the opening day of the Second Annual Pacific Mayors' Conference at the Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort and Spa on May 14. From left are Mayors Wilma Billman of Castillejos, Marissa Reyes of Balete, Maximo, Michael Montenegro of Taal, Eulalio Alilio of Lemery, Epifanio Sandoval of San Nicolas, James Gordon of Olongapo and Eugenio Payonggayong of Hagonoy.

Maximo welcomes Filipino mayors, delegates

Philippine Consul General in the CNMI Wilfredo DL. Maximo welcomed Filipino delegates, guests, and participants to the 2nd Annul Pacific Mayors Conference at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort and Spa on opening day, May 14.

Maximo praised the conference for focusing on the positives rather than the negative consequences of the global recession now affecting the region in varying degrees.

"Indeed, we in this sub-section of the Pacific face unprecedented opportunities for further growth and development, not the least through the military buildup in Guam," he said.

Maximo said it is fitting that participants, who share similar histories and cultures, take advantage of this opportunity to coordinate their activities in the economic, political and socio-cultural spheres to ensure smooth sailing and the eventual success of their various endeavors.

"As the conference gets underway, I am confident that further opportunities for productive collaboration will present themselves," he said.

A total of 31 municipal officials from four provinces in Central and Southern Luzon, including eight mayors, are in attendance. ***(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)***

As expected, the mayor of neighboring town Castillejos, Wilma Billman, supports Gordon's bid, saying Olongapo City has the best hotels and has two convention centers.

"Participants would be able to see for themselves the Subic Naval base, which is close to Clark Air Base in Pampanga," said Billman, who worked with two U.S. military bases in Subic and in Diego Garcia as a supervisor for a supplies department before entering politics as a councilor and now a mayor.

She said her town itself can offer skilled workers to the military buildup in Guam because most of the workers of South Korea's Hanjin, the biggest foreign company at the Subic Bay Freeport Zone, are from her town.

"Olongapo is a highly urbanized and highly competitive city," she said.

Sandoval said if Batangas wins the hosting job, the event will be held in Tagaytay.

He said Mayor McDonald is a frequent visitor of his province and he would try to talk with Gordon and the officers of APILG to award them the right to host.

"But we are willing to support whatever the result may be. The most important thing is that it will be held in the Philippines and it will be lesser costs for us," he said.

McDonald, who is the president of the APILG, said the biggest issue they will face is funding because they will have to pay for the airfare of participants from Guam and the CNMI.

"We're hoping to get some private sponsors in the Philippines," he said.

Communications giant Globe, he said, had offered already two years ago.

Sept. 30 deadline to change voter status

MANILA, Philippines—The Commission on Elections (Comelec) has moved the deadline for Filipinos returning from abroad to transfer their voter registration to the country to September 30 from October 31, election officials said.

Unless Filipino citizens from abroad, including overseas Filipino workers, transfer their voter records and change their overseas absentee voter status, they will not be able to vote in 2010, said lawyer Glinis Tamondong, a member of the Comelec's Committee on Overseas Absentee Voting.

Tamondong said the deadline was moved to September 30 after the Comelec moved the deadline for the filing of certificates of candidacy to November 30 instead of January 2010.

The COAV has received three batches of letter requests containing hundreds of appeals for transfer of OAV records since registration started in February, the official said.

The Election Registration Board hears the requests for transfer while guarding against possible fraud, Tamondong said.

Meanwhile, Comelec spokesman James Jimenez urged Filipinos abroad to beat the August 31 deadline to register as overseas absentee voters.

"We urge our OFWs to register for the 2010 elections. They can coordinate with any post or consulate abroad or with the Department of Foreign Affairs and OFW groups worldwide. Let us aim for one million absentee voters for the 2010 elections," Jimenez said.

Applicants for overseas absentee voting need to present a valid Philippine passport or in the absence of a passport, a certification from the DFA; a photocopy of the Seaman's Book if the applicant is a seafarer; and the original or certified true copy of the application to retain of reacquire Filipino citizenship if the applicant is has dual citizenship. ***(INQUIRER.net)***

? LABOR FRONT

Reporting by workers, employers

By FERDIE PONCE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Q: When should an employer report to the Department of Labor about an alien employee who can't be found or accounted for?

A: In the event that an employer becomes unable to account for a foreign national worker, the employer should report the matter to the Labor Director within 15 business days.

According to the Alien Labor Rules and Regulations, each employer is accountable for every alien worker for whom the employer has had an approved employment contract in effect at any time during the preceding calendar year. The employer shall ensure that the workers are currently employed by the employer, have transferred to another employer by administrative order, have exited the CNMI, are otherwise accounted for as remaining in the Commonwealth lawfully, or are deceased.

■ ■ ■ ■

Q: What should an employer do to his or her alien employee who fails to come to work for five successive days without notice?

A: The regulations state that in the event that a foreign national worker fails to report for work for five successive workdays without notice to the employer of medical or other reasons for absence, the employer should report the potential dispute to the Labor Director promptly. The employer should do the same (report promptly) if a conflict arises between the employer and the alien worker about working conditions or the implementation of the terms of the approved employment contract.

■ ■ ■ ■

Q: What should an alien worker do if his or her employer fails to make complete payment of bi-weekly wages on two successive occasions?

A: Under the regulations, in the event that an employer fails to make full payment of bi-weekly wages on two successive time, the foreign national worker should report the potential dispute to the Labor Director promptly. The worker should do the same (report promptly to the Director) if a conflict arises between the worker and the employer about working conditions or the implementation of the terms of the approved contract.

Disclaimer: *Readers should conduct their own research and due diligence and obtain professional legal advice.* Saipan Tribune *will not be liable for any loss or damage caused by a reader's reliance on information obtained from this section. Submit questions on labor issues to* Saipan Tribune *via e-mail at editor@saipantribune.com, or by calling 235-6397, 235-2440, or 235-8747 and leaving a message at Ext. 133 or 135. You may also submit questions in person by writing it down and dropping it off at the* Saipan Tribune*'s office on the second floor of the JP Center on Beach Road, Garapan.*

PHILIPPINE BRIEFS

Kiko running for VP in 2010, Sharon confirms

MANILA, Philippines—The megastar made it "official." Sharon Cuneta said Sen. Francisco "Kiko" Pangilinan, her husband, would run for vice president in 2010 and she was ready to assume the role of "Second Lady" if he was blessed with victory. "Yes, I think he's declared. It's been made clear to everyone," Cuneta said when asked the other night if the senator was going to run for the country's No. 2 post next year. Cuneta spoke to the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* when she and Pangilinan appeared at the Register&Vote campaign in Barangay Tatalon in Quezon City. ***(Philippine Daily Inquirer)***

Italian hostage still alive—Sulu governor

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Italian Eugenio Vagni is alive and is probably in the pink of health despite the rigors of being a kidnap victim, Sulu Gov. Abdusakur Tan said Thursday. Tan issued the statement after sporadic clashes with Abu Sayyaf bandits took place in Sulu province this week. In one of the clashes, soldiers reported seeing the 61-year-old Italian engineer, who works for the International Committee of the Red Cross, according to Lt. Gen. Nelson Allaga, commander of the Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom). "I would like to think that Vagni is OK, he should be OK because he makes regular exercise out there," Tan told the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* by phone. ***(Philippine Daily Inquirer)***

Melo's nightmare: No-election scenario

MANILA, Philippines—Past blunders are giving Jose Melo, chair of the Commission on Elections (Comelec), nightmares that the current attempt to computerize balloting next year might lead to a no-election scenario. Melo said losing bidders or partisan groups who wanted to stop the elections could use as template the 2003 procurement anomaly case against the Comelec that torpedoed its plan to automate polling the following year. He said a similar case could be filed against Comelec's P11.3-billion automation contract for next year's election. While he noted that anyone had the right to bring a case against the Comelec, Melo expressed fears that the bidding could be used to stop the elections. ***(Philippine Daily Inquirer)***

'I'm willing to bet I will be found guilty'

MANILA, Philippines—Sen. Manuel Villar Thursday took the hot seat, not before the Senate sitting as a committee of the whole, but before the media. "I did not do anything wrong. I did not violate any law. I did not do anything unethical," Villar repeatedly said in a press conference. "My only desire is to have this project finished, which will hugely benefit the people." But Villar stressed that the Senate investigation was "all about the presidential election in 2010." He said he was willing to bet that he would be found guilty by his fellow senators: "Pustahan tayo guilty ako dito." Villar sought to rebut Sen. Jamby Madrigal's charge that he was behind the P200-million double funding in Congress of the C-5 extension road, as well as the purported rerouting of the road to benefit his real estate empire. ***(Philippine Daily Inquirer)***

Navy whistle-blower ordered arrested

MANILA, Philippines—A Philippine Navy officer who has accused senior military officers of pocketing over P40 million in funds for the RP-US Balikatan exercises two years ago has been ordered arrested for desertion and insubordination, officials said Thursday. The arrest order on Navy Lt. Nancy Gadian was issued on Monday following her failure to report back from her 30-day leave that started on April 22. Gadian, 40, has accused retired Lt. Gen. Eugenio Cedo, then chief of the Western Mindanao Command, and other military officers of disbursing only P2.3 million of the P46 million allocated for the annual exercises in 2007 and helping themselves to the rest of the fund. But a review of the documents, including a Commission on Audit report and several program expenditures, showed that the entire P46 million has been accounted for, said Lt. Col. Romeo Brawner Jr. ***(Philippine Daily Inquirer)***

Cabbie found dead inside parked cab

MANILA, Philippines—Manila police investigators are conducting an investigation into the case of a 44-year-old cabbie who was found dead inside his taxi yesterday before dawn in Ermita, Manila. Police are trying to determine if there was foul play in the death of Marciano Galdones Jr., the driver of an F. Bejar taxi with license plate NYZ 611, which was parked on Burgos Street near a police outpost at the Liwasang Bonifacio. Senior Police Officer 2 David Tuazon, case investigator, quoted two vendors in the area as saying they saw the victim park the cab at around 3 a.m. with a woman passenger. ***(Philippine Daily Inquirer)***

Korean, 2 others dead in computer shop

MANILA, Philippines—Three people, including a Korean businessman, were killed and two others were seriously injured by four men who barged inside a computer repair shop in Makati City yesterday. Korean national Alex Ko and his two employees, Kaye Gatus and Nory Lazarito, were shot and stabbed dead. Their bodies were found by the police inside the KP Network Systems Corp., a two-story computer repair shop, on Singian Street, Barangay Poblacion. Arthur Dacles and Glen Pinluan, who were also employees of Ko, were rushed to the Ospital ng Makati for stab wounds in the neck. They were reportedly in critical condition at press time. ***(Philippine Daily Inquirer)***

Remittances hit record high in March

MANILA, Philippines—Remittances from overseas Filipinos reached a record $1.47 billion in March, the central bank said on Friday, suggesting domestic growth will remain resilient despite the global downturn. The latest number surpassed the previous monthly high of $1.45 billion in June and supported central bank Governor Amando Tetangco's comments earlier this week that total remittances this year could be better than an earlier forecast of zero growth. "Remittances are expected to be resilient as workers with permanent status continue to rise," Tetangco told a business forum on Friday. "The January to February deployment for skilled and professional workers remains on the uptrend, generating higher consolidated earnings," he said. Remittances are a key plank of the Philippine economy, driving domestic consumption, which has become the main factor pushing economic growth. Total remittances in the first quarter reached $4.1 billion, up 2.7 percent from the same period of 2008. The March figure was up 3.1 percent year-on-year. ***(Reuters)***

U.S. & CNMI IMMIGRATION LAW

Bruce L. Mailman & Maya B. Kara

FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION

Call for Appointment

(670) 233-0081

Law Offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC
Corner of Beach Road and Cpl. Derence Jack Rd.,
Garapan, Saipan

***Bruce L. Mailman** is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association and has provided immigration services in the CNMI since 1989*

***Maya B. Kara** is a former CNMI Acting Attorney General, Chief Legislative Counsel, Governor's and Lt. Governor's Legal Counsel and DOL Hearing Officer*

DIWANG-PINAY: STILL WE RISE

San Francisco celebrates talented Filipinas

By MARCONI CALINDAS
CORRESPONDENT

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—The city of San Francisco recently celebrated and honored the talents of Filipino women in the Bay Area.

In its fourth year, the Babae-San Francisco, a women's organization and affiliate of GABRIELA-USA, gathered talented Filipino women for an annual festivity that addresses the rights and welfare of Filipinas in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The group's annual performance and silent auction last Sunday night, dubbed "Diwang Pinay: Still We Rise," was held at the Bayanihan Community Center in San Francisco and showcased Filipina-American performers, writers, and artists based in California.

Organization Development officer Elaine Villasper said that "Diwang Pinay" promotes the work of Filipina artists everywhere and represents the expanding cultural backbone of the Filipina diaspora. She said the League of Filipino Students USA started the annual presentation in San Francisco seven years ago until Babae-SF took over in 2006.

She said the theme this year was based on the economic downturn that Filipino women face right now. "[It tells of] how Filipina women can rise above adversity, not just today or time but in general. In history, women are the ones that raise their families and provide care," Villasper said.

She said the event's theme focused on how women persevere through tough times and was one of several venues dedicated to providing Filipinas and Filipina-Americans a platform to showcase their triumphs and struggles through art, linking history to the narrative of today's Filipina.

The event showcased 10 visual artists: Jessica Antonio, Bean Rabino, Villasper, Dezi Suarez, Heather Boyer, Jenifer Wofford, Catherine Lagman, Jana Templanza and Samantha Pinpin.

Villasper, a Daly City resident, contributed four of her paintings for the silent auction. She said her paintings were inspired by women she met when she visited Calinga in the Cordillera Region.

For Villasper, the modern Filipina is multi-faceted. "There's so many characters for her: A *nanay* [mother], *lola* [grandmother], nurse, student, activist. You can't categorize a Filipino woman now. This event shows the empowerment of women [and] how different we can all be."

MARCONI CALINDAS

Artist Bean Rabino is all smiles as she proudly displays her painting "Untitled #2" during the recently held Diwang-Pinay: Still We Rise at the Bayanihan Community Center in San Francisco.

Rabino, a visual artist and an Art History and Studio Art graduate from Humboldt University in California, also contributed four paintings. She said her participation is intended to make a difference and to celebrate the talent of creative Filipino women. "Being Filipina means so many things, juxtapositions. There's more to being just a Pinay in America," she said, adding that today's Filipina is tough, especially those who want to go "against the grain" living in the U.S.

The event also highlighted two famous Filipinas in Philippine history: Gabriela Silang and Melchora Aquino, also known as Tandang Sora. Skits, poetry readings, short films and song and dance numbers were showcased during the two-hour event. Performers included Kristen Sajonas, Tina Shauf, Aiza Bonus, Erica Viray-Santos, Evelyn Obamos, Caroline Calderon, Chloe Nakano and the Parangal Dance Company. Over 300 Filipino-Americans that included students, teachers, and parents attended the event.

The event also highlighted the courage and perseverance of lesbian couple Shirley Tan and Jay Mercado. The couple, who were present during the presentation, recently hurdled a U.S. Immigration challenge when Tan was given reprieve to stay in America until 2011, enough to give the U.S. Congress time to pass a bill that will allow gay and lesbian Americans to petition their foreign domestic partners to be U.S. residents.

GABRIELA-USA chairperson Raquel Redondiez said she was honored to have the presence of Tan and Mercado—modern-day Filipina women who are fighting for what they believe in.

Redondiez said, "The theme *Still We Rise* really means to celebrate the Filipina women and their struggles. Many Pinays leave the country to be away from their family to support them." She said Tan's case is an example of an ongoing struggle.

GABRIELA Philippines is on its 25th year in the Philippines.

MARCONI CALINDAS

Filipino-American Tina Shauf serenades hundreds of Filipino-Americans in San Francisco during the recently held Diwang-Pinay: Still We Rise at the Bayanihan Community Center in San Francisco. The 7-year-old event celebrates Filipino women in history and in this day and age.

MARCONI CALINDAS

Elaine Villasper, Filipino-American from Daly City, showcases four of her paintings during the recently held Diwang-Pinay: Still We Rise at the Bayanihan Community Center in San Francisco.

PERSONAL FINANCE

How to cope with the rising cost of tuition

INQUIRER.net

Q: Every year, my wife and I dread the coming of a new school year. We have three kids in school, one each in grade school and high school, and one entering college this year. Tuition fees increase every year but our salaries don't increase as much. How can we make sure to have enough for tuition fees? Since my youngest daughter is only 8 years old, we still have a long way to go. – Luis

A: When parents of school age children gather together, expect talk to go into the cost of education. It can be quite expensive to send one child to private school, especially if it is an exclusive school.

A year's tuition and school fees can cost as much as more than P100,000 per child in elite schools. Smaller schools may charge P35,000 per year. And we're only talking about tuition. There are still other expenses to consider: books, supplies, uniforms, transportation, and even the daily baon. It is not easy to put a child through school, and what more in your case—three children, one of whom is entering college.

But don't despair. Many parents, no matter how much they earn, have been able to put their children through college. All it takes is hard work—and wise spending and saving.

Here are some tips to follow so you can meet your goal of putting your children through college, based on the brochure *Financial Tips for Parents: Planning for your Children's Future* published by Citibank Philippines:

Define your goals.

Break down what you want to help your child with: a university education, down payment for a car or house, wedding expenses, protection in case of unforeseen events.

Find out how much you need and when.

Target a college or university and find out how much a four-year course may cost. Also add the cost of remaining grade school and high school education for your two younger children. Factor in the expected annual tuition fee increase (around 10 percent). You will then get an idea of how much you need to raise each year for tuition until they are all finished with college.

Save and invest early.

Don't just meet this year's education costs. Start saving for the succeeding years. How can you do this? Start early, and increase your savings rate. If you start saving now for the long term, you may need to pay a lesser amount of money upfront in the future.

"The other advantage of starting early is the benefit of compounding. Compounding means earning interest on the money you have originally invested and on the income you earn from that investment," the brochure says. Your money will grow more as interest is earned over and over again.

Save, diversify investments and invest regularly.

The savings account is not the only way to save money. You may be able to grow your money more via money market placements, time deposits, mutual fund or unit investment trust fund placements (pooled funds), and stocks or bonds.

Study each investment option carefully and invest the money according to your appetite for risk and time horizon. For instance, for your eldest child's college education, don't invest your savings in stocks or pooled funds investing in stocks. Choose a more conservative form of investment since the money will be used in the short term. For your youngest child's education, you have about 10 years more before she goes to college. You can consider the other forms of investment to take advantage of benefits that may be earned over a longer term.

Commit to save money regularly and invest this in higher-earning investments. A good strategy is to set aside money every pay day. Treat saving for your children's education as a bill you have to pay every month.

Look into financial aid and scholarships available.

Your children may be qualified to avail of such; this will greatly ease your financial need.

Check out government or community support programs for further education. Computer classes are one example. If your children can be more efficient in computers, they may be able to perform better in school and have a better chance at bagging that scholarship.

Protect your children's education fund in case you are not there to maintain it.

Look at purchasing insurance endowment fund designating your child as the irrevocable beneficiary to ensure that the proceeds from this fund will be utilized for your children's schooling.

Teach your children the importance of saving and financial planning by involving them. Get them in on the act. Let them know that the whole family is saving for their educational needs and that is why luxuries may take a back seat. Later, your children may be able to contribute by saving and even working part time. They may be able to earn extra money for baon.

With careful planning, providing for children's education is possible. Start today.

Maharlika – PinoyStyle

Wild Filipino welcome for 2 American idols

By MARINEL CRUZ
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—It was "pandemonium."

This was how an organizer described the welcome American Idol Season 7 winner David Cook and runner-up David Archuleta received at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Tuesday.

The two Davids are in Manila for a joint concert at the SM Mall of Asia (MOA) in Pasay City today, May 16.

Cook arrived at 1:15pm on a Singapore Airlines flight from Los Angeles. Archuleta came in two hours later via Qatar Airways from London, where he had a concert.

"A huge crowd came to greet them. They were supposed to have an interview with the airport press, but that was hard to pull off with all the people around," said lawyer Arlyn Mancao of Fearless Promotions, the concert producer.

The singers have a tight schedule, promoting the concert on radio and TV shows, Mancao said.

Last Wednesday, Archuleta had a meet-and-greet with fans at MOA's Main Mall Atrium. Cook met with regional bosses of his record label, Sony BMG.

On Thursday, Archuleta performed on GMA 7's magazine show "Sis." He then guested on the noontime game show "Eat…Bulaga!"

Cook and Archuleta visited radio station Magic 89.9 TM, a major concert sponsor, in the afternoon, during which disc jockey Mo Twister interviewed the two. At 7pm, a press conference for the two Davids was held in the Mactan function room of the Edsa Shangri-La hotel in Mandaluyong City.

Cook will guest on "Eat…Bulaga!" today, Saturday.

AP

"American Idol" 2008 winner David Cook, left, answers questions as second placer David Archuleta looks on during a press conference Thursday, May 14, 2009 in Manila's Pasig city, Philippines. Cook and Archuleta will perform a concert today.

■ ■ ■ ■

"A lot of energy, but probably not a lot of dancing," reigning "American Idol" David Cook told the *Inquirer* when asked what to expect from his Manila gig with Season 7 (2008) runner-up David Archuleta. The two Davids will perform in a back-to-back concert today, May 16, at the SM Mall of Asia concert grounds in Pasay.

"Fans can expect a lot of fun. Archie and I are very excited to perform for the people of the Philippines," said the 26-year-old singer-songwriter in an e-mail interview.

Nearly a year after winning the title, Cook said he still experiences "a small amount of stage fright" when performing before a crowd. He revealed a ritual prior to going onstage that helps him loosen up:

"Me and the band put our hands in the middle and say something stupid. I try to visualize what I want to do on stage. My worst shows are the ones where I have no down time prior."

Below are excerpts from the interview:

Why didn't you include any song from your indie album "Analog Heart" in your mainstream album?

While I greatly appreciate what we were able to do on "Analog Heart," I wanted my major label debut to be about looking forward and not back.

How different is "Analog Heart" from your self-titled mainstream album?

The new record shows a definite progression. I am writing about different things but the core value is consistent on both.

You are being compared to Season 5 fourth runner-up Chris Daughtry.

I have a great amount of respect for what Daughtry has accomplished, so if people want to compare us, I'm OK with that.

You're a self-proclaimed "word nerd." Do you still find time for crossword puzzles while touring?

Yes, but more of Sudoku than anything.

Which David is Jom's fave?

By DOLLY ANNE CARVAJAL
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—Jomari Yllana is all agog for the concert of David Cook and David Archuleta which he is co-producing on May 16 at the SM Mall Of Asia grounds.

Which David is his fave? "It was one 'American Idol' finals where I wished that both of them emerged as winners," Jom says. "Wala akong itulak kabigin [I can't say anything bad]."

Will he give his ex Pops Fernandez tickets to the concert? "Sure," he says "Why not?"

How's life after the Pipay episode? "Life is good."

He did a duet with another ex, Ara Mina, in a party recently. Did sparks fly? "It felt like I was singing with an old friend."

The song may be over but Jom's heart will soon be back in tune again … with a little help from Cook's or Archuleta's songs.

Unsolicited advice

Paolo Santos is ecstatic that he has been tapped to sing the theme song of Judai and Ryan's teleserye. The song, "Kwento Nating Dalawa," was written by Jose Javier Reyes with music by Ryan Cayabyab. It's Direk Joey and Mr C's gift to the newlyweds.

Pao, who also tied the knot recently, can relate to the song. His unsolicited advice to the Agoncillos? "Enjoy the ups and learn from the downs. As the title of the song suggests, dapat lahat shared nilang dalawa," says Pao. "Nobody should come between them."

With Judai and Ryan's excellent teamwork in keeping their wedding a big secret, it should be no problem for them to keep being in connivance and in harmony.

Guess list

■ This young actress refused to share a dressing room with three other equally popular young actresses. So she took out the name of a well-respected singer that was pasted on the door of the adjacent dressing room and made it her own. When the singer found out about it, she fumed. "Better tell her to respect senior stars." The sign on YA's dressing room ought to be this: "Overdressed Ego."

■ TV Host is peeved at TV Personality for not keeping her promise. I wasn't a bit surprised when I heard about their spat. Not too long ago, TP told me that she bought a book about how to deal with annoying people because she could hardly endure TH's obnoxious behavior while they were working together.

■ During an out-of-town event, a drunk young actress barged into the room of a young actor. She started blabbering, "Ayoko na talaga sa show biz. Hirap, parati na lang nachi-chismis. Artista ako, you know. Smell my hands. Di ba amoy marijuana?"

The actor was flabbergasted. Was he roused from sleep to listen to her ranting? Looks like it's the young actress who needs to "wake up."

■ A TV personality who was spotted kissing a foreign artist in a club was next seen in the audience during Pacman's bout with Hatton. Her plane fare and ticket to the match was said to be a gift from a married politico. Hmm… she's going places with various faces!

F4 fever

Starting today, meet the guys that will surely make your prime time viewing sizzle as ABS-CBN premieres "Boys Over Flowers," (after "Tayong Dalawa") said to be the highest rating show and one of the grandest Korean TV productions ever made.

Based on the best-selling Japanese manga "Hana Yori Dango" written by Yoko Kamio, this Korean remake launched the careers of today's hottest Asian superstars and sought-after endorsers Lee Min-Ho, Kim Hyun-Joong, Kim Bum, Kim Joon and Koo Hye-Sun.

This romantic story was first adapted in Taiwan as the phenomenal hit drama "Meteor Garden," starring Asia's sensational boy band F4.

It's still one of the most successful Asianovelas ever aired on Philippine television.

Still a Kapamilya

Contrary to rumors, Baron Geisler is not moving to GMA 7. "I think ipapahiram lang ako ng ABS," he clarifies, "to do some episodes of a drama special, 'SRO Cinemaserye' yata."

Doesn't he feel pressured to outdo himself after reaping awards for his superb performance in Jay? "Not at all, because I love my job," he says. "Awards are really a bonus."

And just like his career, Baron's love life is in full bloom. "Tinamaan talaga ako kay Rachel (Stephenson)," he tells us. "I hadn't felt this way since my relationship with Jodi (Sta. Maria). Even if Chelz lives in Australia, we chat online for hours daily. Thank God for webcams (laughs)! And we visit each other monthly. It's hard to have a long distance relationship. Sipag at tiyaga lang dapat. Our sweet reunions make the long wait worth it."

Looks like the barfly in Baron would need less alcohol now that he's intoxicated with love!

No comment

I cornered Karylle and asked if she's happy about the breakup of her ex Dingdong Dantes' team-up with Marian Rivera. "I'd rather not comment about that," K said. "It's almost mid-year and I'm ripe for change." So is she ready to fall again? "Love will come," she quips, "when it's time." For now, her heart seems to be on time-out mode.

Great feedback

Carmina Villaroel is overwhelmed by the great feedback she got for her performance in "Maalaala Mo Kaya."

"I missed doing drama," she says. "I grew up in ABS-CBN. It's always fun working with them."

Does it signal her return to the Kapamilya network?

"Nope. I'm staying with GMA," she clarifies. "With my hosting, my schedule is toxic. But I hope GMA will give me a drama project soon."

Is she willing to work with her ex, Rustom who has since transformed into BB Gandanghari? "We're okay," she quips. "But I won't answer na lang about a project with him."

Guess Mina would rather not do a "Maalaala Mo Kaya" of the Rustom Padilla episode in her life.

Yasmien: JC out, Dion in

Yasmien Kurdi doesn't give a hoot about her ex-partner JC de Vera. What can she say about him being caught in the crossfire of the Galvante-Rama "war"?

"Deadma," she says. "Hate ko talaga 'yong insinuation ng iba na I'm bitter because iba na ka-love team niya. Yung fans namin dati, fans na namin ni Dion Ignacio. I'm so over that chapter in my life." Enough said, too much felt.

Music comeback

Jennylyn Mercado refuses to answer any question related to Patrick Garcia. "I've moved on," Jen declares. "There are many more interesting stuff to talk about than Pat."

Her heart is in better shape. Same goes for her body as the new Belo Medical Group endorser.

She's set to make a music comeback in her birthday concert "I Am Woman" on May 14, 8 p.m. at the Music Museum with guests Ogie Alcasid, Janno Gibbs, Mark Herras, Richard Poon and Christian Bautista.

What's her song for her love child AJ? "'Angel' by Sarah McLachlan."

Is it also Jen's way of calling out for an angel named Cupid?

Controversial video

The controversial video of Dr. Hayden Kho and Katrina Halili is now circulating in cyberspace. They are both doing a sensual dance with Hayden singing "Careless Whisper." Their carelessness has turned their liaison dangereuse into the loudest whisper.

Solid bond

I teased Dingdong Dantes. "Don't you get SJ (selos jealous) now that Marian Rivera will be paired with Dennis Trillo? "Not at all," Dong says. "I am secure about where I stand in her life. Our bond is solid. Being paired with others will make us appreciate each other more."

Sometimes friends/lovers have to be apart to see what they had together.

Maharlika – Opinyon

EDITORIAL

Maturity unfolding

The recent ANC Leadership Forum, held in cooperation with the Ateneo de Manila University, was a timely step in the right direction. For the first time, some (though not all) of those who are interested in running for president allowed themselves to be subjected to questions concerning their political principles, motivations, platforms and policies.

Senators Francis Escudero, Richard Gordon and Manuel Roxas II, Pampanga Gov. Ed Panlilio, and Defense Secretary Gilbert Teodoro allowed themselves to be grilled publicly by veteran TV journalists Tina Monzon-Palma and Ricky Carandang. They certainly faced uncomfortable questions: Escudero, for example, on his campaign donors; Panlilio on his stand concerning family planning; Roxas on his wedding plan motivations; Gordon and Teodoro on the political and legal legacies of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

However, Vice President Noli de Castro, Senators Panfilo Lacson, Loren Legarda and Manuel Villar Jr. and MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando, for one reason or another, were no shows. Perhaps what these no-shows have in common is the old-fashioned political dictum espoused by the late Sen. Genaro Magsaysay: "less talk, less mistake." But if that is what they thought, they are out of sync with the times.

Instead of gamely sitting down and taking it in stride, it seems the citizenry's appetite for public debates has been whetted, instead of dulled, by the reluctance of candidates to confront each other—and be confronted by the public and the media. Public demand for public debates has been sustained, and media efforts to meet that demand have been amply rewarded.

When the GMA Network held a senatorial candidate's forum in 2007, media observers were astounded by the healthy ratings and broad public interest in the exercise. Not a few political observers concluded that the ability—or lack of it—of certain candidates to answer questions had a tangible impact on how the candidates did in the elections.

Changes in voting behavior don't happen overnight; shifts take place sometimes imperceptibly over many years, or more noticeably but over the span of two or more electoral cycles. Such was the case with the cresting of the showbiz phenomenon in national politics, which has significantly subsided; and so, it seems, is the case with the manner by which the electorate ponders on qualifications of presidential hopefuls. The era of the "barrio-by-barrio" campaign, with its platform speeches, is over. The mass media are now the national stage on which the presidential contest unfolds. As this development was taking place, candidates at first enjoyed the ability to carefully control their media appearances, focusing on professionally-crafted advertisements, for example. But the citizenry has become wary of the manufactured soundbite, of campaigns conducted in isolation from the rest of the candidates. What we, the people, want, is a sober and serious discussion of the issues, and a glimpse into the policies future chief executives intend to implement once in office.

© Philippine Daily Inquirer

Comedy

Manny Pacquiao is the face of determination. He'd like nothing better than to fight his next foe. That is, well, whoever he faces for a congressional seat in Sarangani.

His desire to jump to this new weight class, or ring, has been met with much anguish by his admirers, not least in government. They have only one advice for him: Don't.

"It would be good," says political adviser Gabriel Claudio, "if he can assess or formulate any plans to join next year's elections based on what is best not only for the locality he is considering to serve but the entire nation as well."

"One or two more big fights," says House Speaker Prospero Nograles, "and running for politics would be ok. Break all the records first."

"Being a congressman," says Bayan Muna partylist Rep. Teodoro Casiño, "is a full time job. He should study even now. He has one year to do that. With his victory, he is now a serious contender as a local official."

I have a different piece of advice for Pacquiao: By all means do. I disagree with Casiño when he says that with his victory, Pacquiao has become a serious contender for any local position. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that with his victory Pacquiao has become a shoo-in for president.

The fact that he lost before when he ran as congressman doesn't matter a hoot. It was his mistake to begin with—the same mistake Rudy Fernandez made when he ran for mayor of Quezon City—running for a local position. Had he run for senator, he probably would have won. Local elections are still a matter of logistics, national ones are a matter of popularity. I say probably because Paquiao then wasn't quite the legend, or Siegfried, or epic hero, he is now.

Wouldn't it be the richest irony if the same government that has been exploiting his clout with the masa (masses) to contend with their wrath should now have to contend with his ambitions? It's enough to make everyone believe in God.

The foreign publications that said Pacquiao could become his country's president one day are wrong only in the "one day." He could become his country's president instantly if he wanted to. No one can stop him. Not Noli. Not Erap (former president Joseph Estrada). Not even President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, who shows no sign of being resigned to leave anyway. He has become bigger than all of them put together. If Pacquiao decides to become the next president, he will become the next president.

There's The Rub

By CONRADO DE QUIROS
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

He can become simultaneously president and boxing champion, using as moniker, "The Fighting President." Or, since he also uses karaoke, "The Fighting/Singing President."

The only thing, in fact, that can stop him is his suddenly realizing the stupidity of wanting to run. Stupidity because it is a demotion rather than a promotion. He's already champion of the world, much admired by the world, reveling in hundreds of millions of hard-earned dollars without grappling with the hundreds of millions of headaches stashing ill-gotten loot is heir to. Why on earth would he want to demote himself to ruler of Lilliput, breathing the same air as the pygmies there, waging war on the all-important issue of whether to break an egg on the long side or the short side?

But I have another reason for wanting Pacquiao to run for president other than to make it the hardest thing in the world for Ms Arroyo to stay. That is to show up elections, or indeed politics, in this country. All the advice about Pacquiao needing to prepare, study, appreciate the job of a politician as being full time, weigh the worth of public service versus public spectacle, and have the community's or the nation's interest at heart presumes all the others do. It presumes the people giving the advice do. It presumes Claudio and Nograles do. It presumes the congressmen do. (I presume Casiño does.) When in fact all they do is prepare for reelection by flying to Pacquiao's side each time he fights, study the odds in the various gaming tables in Las Vegas, spend their waking hours plotting ways to separate fools, also called taxpayers, from their money, weigh the differential benefits of token work versus pure PR, and have Arroyo's—and their own—interests at heart.

It presumes that elections, and politics, in this country are serious business when they are in fact a comedy. It presumes that the bulk at least, if not all, of the candidates for public office, especially the presidency, are serious people, when in fact they are either comedians who have taken themselves seriously with laughable results or undertakers who have become comedians with tear-jerking results.

The advice that prospective candidates should first study and prepare is a familiar one. It's the advice the trapos (traditional politicians) have been giving the entertainers all this time, particularly when they were threatening to overrun public office. The usual practice was to point to Erap who did exactly that, becoming mayor of San Juan first, then senator, then vice president, before becoming president. Well, all that study and preparation merely taught him how to steal, or how to steal more. Better if he had jumped from movie star to president, maybe his appetites might not have been honed that sharply.

The advice presumes that trapos are better than entertainers, when they are in fact worse. Far far worse. Entertainers turned politicians can only produce bad entertainment; trapos turned mad can only want to stay for good. Pacquiao turned president can only stop being a legend and become "laos" (obsolete); Arroyo turned ruler for life can only stop being a pest and turn into swine flu.

Of course, we can always have a choice beyond an entertainer and a trapo. We can always demand to have a choice beyond an entertainer and a trapo. We can always summon forth, by sheer need and by sheer will, another Cory or Obama.

But right now, that is about as near to being possible as Pacquiao is to becoming Muhammad Ali.

The execution of Bonifacio

There were two death anniversaries this week that often go unnoticed. May 10 marks the death, in 1897, of Andres Bonifacio, and May 13 marks the death, in 1903, of Apolinario Mabini.

The Supremo of the Katipunan was executed somewhere in the Maragondon range, and his remains have never been found. Bones were exhumed there in 1918, but I believe those were fake.

The Brains of the Revolution died of cholera in his brother's home in Nagtahan which was recently relocated, we hope for the last time, to the Polytechnic University of the Philippines, Mabini campus in Manila by the banks of the Pasig River.

Our textbooks are understandably vague regarding the death of Bonifacio because it is very difficult to explain politics and power struggle to children who then grow up thinking Emilio Aguinaldo had Bonifacio killed. In a nutshell, a revolutionary government was born from the Katipunan in what is known as the Tejeros Convention. Bonifacio did not agree, and so we had two governments. He was captured, tried for treason, found guilty and sentenced to death. Aguinaldo hesitated and considered commuting the sentence, but was convinced by one of Bonifacio's men, Artemio Ricarte, to proceed with the execution. This is one of the problem areas of textbook history.

Unlike Rizal who was technically killed by "the enemy," Bonifacio was killed by fellow Filipinos. Like many in the French Revolution he read about, Bonifacio was a victim of the very revolution he started.

Discussion on this is endless, and it will fill many more columns in the future. Today I reproduce Lazaro Makapagal's eyewitness account of the execution of the Bonifacio brothers published in the Dec. 1, 1928, issue of the *Philippines Free Press*. This is supposed to be an English translation of a Tagalog document then preserved in the archives of the Veteranos de la Revolucion.

"I received orders from General Mariano Noriel to take over Andres Bonifacio and Procopio Bonifacio, from the place where they were detained, and to conduct them to the hill of Tala in Maragondong, Cavite. General Noriel handed to me at the same time a sealed package with orders that it be not opened until we reached the place I mentioned. I was charged to follow to the letter, the instructions contained within the package.

Looking Back

By AMBETH OCAMPO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

"In compliance with these orders, I took with me the two brothers to the place mentioned, together with four soldiers under my command. On the road we conversed like friends. But I already had a presentiment of the order contained within the parcel.

"On reaching Tala hill in Maragondong, I opened the order, read it, and then let the brothers read it. It was an order for the execution of the brothers. The two brothers were terror stricken; Andres told me in Tagalog, 'Patawarin ninyo ako, kapatid.' (Brother, forgive me.) I answered that I was very sorry, but by military discipline I had to carry out the unhappy task.

"I conducted Procopio, who was stronger, to a wooded place, and on reaching the top of the hill, I ordered one of the soldiers to shoot him in the back. This done, I and the soldiers, using bayonets and bolos, dug a pit where we buried Procopio.

"When I approached the place where Andres was, he said, 'Patay na kapatid ko.' (My brother is dead.) And he added, 'Patawarin ninyo ako, kapatid.' I replied that I was sorry, but it was my military duty to follow the order.

"Andres Bonifacio tried to escape, but he could not go far because of the thick shrubbery around. One of the soldiers reached him, firing at him from behind and shooting him in the back. After digging one more grave with our bayonets and bolos, we buried Andres in it.

"Procopio and Andres were not taken to Tala hill bound but free. Andres had only one wound, in one of his arms. From the hill where Procopio was buried to the grave of Andres, on a hill slope facing a rivulet, there were only twenty-five steps, while from Andres' grave to the brook the distance was about five brazas.

"The brothers were buried in the morning. This was before the fighting with the Spaniards took place, when they captured Maragondong.

"Andres wore a white camisa de chino on the day of his execution. The gun used was a Remington. The four soldiers who accompanied us were natives of Kawit, and they are all dead. I am the only survivor of the occurrence."

A year later, Makapagal gave a more detailed account of the execution in a letter to Jose P. Santos. This version states that Bonifacio begged for his life on his knees (which many people do not wish to accept then as now).

Ricarte, in his memoirs, made a mistake in giving the names of the executioners. He went on to suggest that Aguinaldo had the Bonifacio brothers executed because they were his rivals, conveniently leaving out the detail that it was he who had argued for their execution when Aguinaldo considered exile.

Most of the time history is difficult because of the lack of sources, but a greater challenge faces those who have to sift through and validate more than one, sometimes conflicting, sources.

There is a landscaped shrine in the Maragondon execution site today, but until we have located Bonifacio's remains and laid them to rest, we may never resolve the issue of his death.

Comments are welcome at aocampo@ateneo.edu.

Samu't Sari

BURGER COOKOFF CHAMPIONS
Roderick Lopez poses with the high-end griller he won as part of his prize for winning first place in the Burger Cookoff competition held last Saturday, May 9, 2009, at the Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival and Beer Garden. The competition was sponsored by Triple J, Angus Beef, and Budweiser.
SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Arvin Ian Sales poses with wife Malou and daughter Kyna after receiving his prizes for winning second place in the Burger Cookoff competition held last Saturday, May 9, 2009, at the Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival and Beer Garden at the American Memorial Park.
SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Doris Saures of Barney's Pizza gives a triumphant smile after being declared the third place winner in the Burger Cookoff competition held last Saturday, May 9, 2009, at the Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival and Beer Garden. The Taste of the Marianas continues today at the American Memorial Park, this time with a hotdog eating competition.
SAIPAN TRIBUNE

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT
Happy 18th birthday to Britney Mafnas, who is celebrating her birthday today! Wishing you an awesome day and many more birthdays to come! Much love from your family and friends.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated happy 11th birthday greetings go out to Jenika Kay Palacios! Best wishes and may you have many more birthdays to come. We love you very much! From Mommy, Daddy and your loving siblings.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ISLAND COVERAGE
Outside Magazine photographer Phillip Englehorn shoots the vista from Bird Island Lookout in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. *Outside Magazine* has a readership of over 2 million adventurers and nature lovers. "The colors are unbelievable here—they are so vivid!" said Englehorn during his visit May 1-3, 2009.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Intrepid photographer Phillip Englehorn gazes over the sheer drop cliff at Laderan Tanke in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, comparing the vista to similar adventures in Papua New Guinea and Equatorial Africa. Englehorn lives in Hong Kong and is a professional photographer for *Outside Magazine*, a publication reaching over 2 million readers looking for adventure and exotic destinations to visit. He visited Saipan on May 1-3, 2009.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday greetings go out to Ranasia Sablan Bocago, who is celebrating her 3rd birthday today, May 16, 2009. Enjoy your day and may you have many more birthdays to come. We love you! Greetings come from the family.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BON VOYAGE
From left, Tomoko Shimizu, Jacqueline Hernandez, Haidee V. Eugenio, Kristi Eaton, and Nazario Rodriguez Jr. have their picture taken at the Godfather's Bar during the May 1 farewell party for Kristi, who left the *Saipan Tribune* to work for Pacific News Center in Guam.
SAIPAN TRIBUNE

NEW CHRISTIAN
Happy Christening to Kaitlyn Alexza Drilon, who will be baptized into the Christian world today, May 16,2009. Greetings come from Mom and Dad.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

YoungStyle

Good, green fun

By MARGARET WEBB PRESSLER
(C) 2009, THE WASHINGTON POST

Green, in every sense of the word

Green Toys, a California company, makes toys out of recycled milk jugs. Kids "want to know what happens to the recycling after we recycle it," said company founder Robert von Goeben. "This makes recycling real." Among the company's eco-conscious toys are a mini gardening kit, a flying disk called an EcoSaucer and a jump-rope. ***(The Washington Post)***

THE WASHINGTON POST

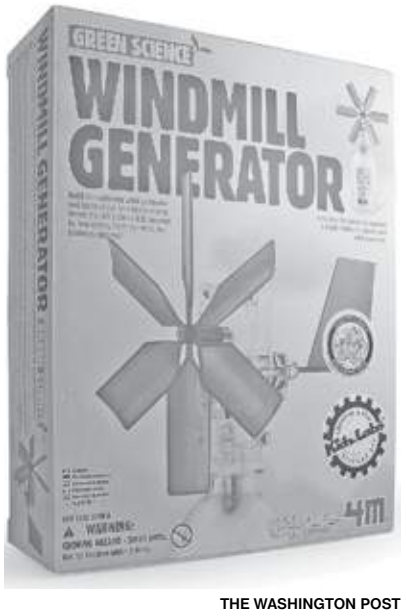
Green Toys, a California company, makes toys out of recycled milk jugs. This Green Toys gardening kit includes seeds and a soil disk that expands to fill the recycled-plastic pot.

WASHINGTON—When we ask kids what world issue is most important to them, the same word comes up over and over again: environment, environment, environment.

In an effort to be "green," kids participate in stream cleanups and nag their parents to replace traditional light bulbs with ones that use less energy and last longer, but will kids change the way they play?

Some toy companies think so, and they're changing not just the kinds of toys they make but also how they package them to appeal to a generation of green kids.

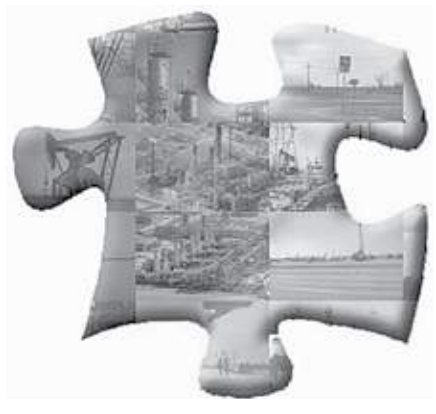
Many toys today are made of plastic, and when those toys are thrown away, they sit in a landfill for many years without breaking down. One alternative is to look for a wooden toy or game, because wood doesn't have to be manufactured with chemicals and it will decompose over time. The games Gobblet and Gobblet Junior, with little wooden cups that players stack on one another until someone gets three or four in a row, are good examples.



THE WASHINGTON POST

No batteries are necessary for the Windmill Generator, which powers an LED light. Make it using an old plastic bottle.

Other companies are trying to use recycled materials in their toys. The Green Science line by Toysmith uses recycled materials and teaches kids about being Earth-friendly. Kids will like toys only if they are fun, but being green "is definitely a plus these days," said company executive Rich Ockwell.



THE WASHINGTON POST

Some toy companies are changing not just the kinds of toys they make but also how they package them to appeal to a generation of green kids. If you bury this Green Pieces puzzle piece, it will grow wildflowers.

You can also think about ways to make toys from things you already have at home. Family Fun magazine suggests screwing a long dowel (wood stick) to an old sneaker to make a goofy golf club. Or put reflective tape on small toys and hunt for them in the back yard at night with flashlights.

Here are some other things that you can think about the next time you're in a toy store or playing at home:

■ Look at the box the toy is in. Is it made of recycled or recyclable material? Is it bigger than it needs to be? "There was a time when the big box meant value, and now the big box means waste," said toy expert Chris Byrne.

■ Look at where the toy was made. A lot of energy is used to get a toy all the way from China. When possible, look for toys made in this country.

■ When a toy gets broken and needs to be thrown away, see whether all or part of it can go in the recycling bin instead of the trash can. Green Pieces puzzles by TDC Games have wildflower seeds pressed into them, so when you're done with the puzzle, you can just plant the pieces!

Barbie Thumbelina is packaged inside recyclable cardboard. "There was a time when the big box meant value, and now the big box means waste," said toy expert Chris Byrne.

THE WASHINGTON POST

■ Instead of using all those AA and AAA batteries to power your remote control cars and then throwing them in the trash when they are used up, consider using rechargeable batteries. Rechargeable batteries are widely available and can be recycled rather than pile up in a landfill.

■ If you outgrow a toy and find that you're not playing with it much anymore, give it to another child who will enjoy it. That's the best recycling of all.

What makes you itch?

By MARGARET WEBB PRESSLER
(C) 2009, THE WASHINGTON POST

When you have an itch, you scratch it, right? Sounds simple. But the systems inside the body that create that itchy feeling—and then soothe it through scratching—are very complex and have never been well understood.

Some high-level scientists have just solved one big part of the mystery, though, and they are hoping it will help develop treatments for itchiness. You may think of itching as the result of a bug bite or allergies, but some conditions and diseases cause people to itch for no apparent reason, and it can be a terrible, constant feeling. "They really suffer," said Glenn Giesler, a professor at the University of Minnesota who was involved in the research.

Giesler and his team looked at two things: what creates the itch and what it is about scratching that stops that itch.

It turns out that the feeling of itchiness comes from a particular kind of neuron, or long nerve cell, inside the spinal cord that carries pain signals to the brain. Of all the neurons that carry messages to the brain (to make your arm move or feel when something hurts), only a tiny portion carries the itch signal.

"There are fewer than 20,000 (itch neurons) in a spinal cord that has millions and millions of neurons," Giesler said. "Finding them is like finding a needle in a haystack."

But the researchers did find some. Then they recorded the responses of those neurons when an itch-producing substance was put on the skin. The itch neurons pulsed repeatedly with tiny electrical signals headed to the brain.

Once that nerve was activated, the researchers scratched the affected skin—and the electrical pulses stopped completely for about 40 seconds. That's why, when you scratch a mosquito bite, the itchy feeling stops for half a minute or so.

Experiments such as this reveal tiny details about the body's nervous system. But these discoveries can have a big impact. Now that it's known what nerves carry itch signals and that scratching shuts them down, other researchers can start looking for new medicines that will do the same thing without your having to claw at your skin.

Love for the game beats winning anytime

By FRED BOWEN
Special to The Washington Post

Fred Bowen writes is an author of sports novels for kids.

The seventh game of any playoff series is always special, win or lose. The other six games seem to build to the excitement of a dramatic finish. The seventh game always has an edge-of-your-seat, heart-in-your-throat intensity unlike any other. One play, one shot, one save may make all the difference.

But there's other things that make our games and sports so special.

For example, where we play our sports is often one of the best things about the games. Think of it: What is as perfect as a fresh sheet of ice after the Zamboni machine has made its final pass and left the surface as smooth as a pane of glass? Or a swimming pool on a summer morning, clear and calm, before the first swimmer has broken the water?

To me a freshly mowed and lined baseball, soccer or lacrosse field is as beautiful as any painting. So is a golf course in the early morning, or in the evening when the sun is setting.

The stuff we play with is wonderful, too. Is there anything that feels as good in your hand as a brand-new baseball? Or a nice leather football? Grab hold of either, and you just have to play a game of catch.

Notice the next time you open a can of new tennis balls. They seem to come out all yellow in a great swoosh, bouncing eagerly onto the court. New tennis balls even smell great.

The stuff we play in is fun, too. Sports uniforms are so much more colorful and comfortable than regular clothes. Maybe that's why kids stay in their sports uniforms long after their games are over.

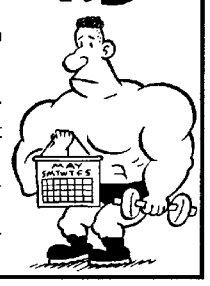
No shoes feel better on my feet than my golf shoes. Maybe that's because I know I am going to have fun whenever I put them on.

We talk so much about winning in sports. But if you are the kind of kid who is happy only when her team wins, then sports will let you down. After all, no team or player wins all the time.

But if you can learn to enjoy the parts of sports that have nothing to do with winning or losing—the feel of a favorite bat or stick in your hand, or how your heart jumps when you put on your uniform or run onto the field—then sports will always be fun. Whether you win or lose.

RIDDLE CARD

1. What has more feet in winter than in summer?
2. What fastidious animal reminds you of a flower?
3. Which is the strongest day of the week?
4. On which side of a pitcher is the handle?
5. How can you make a coat last?

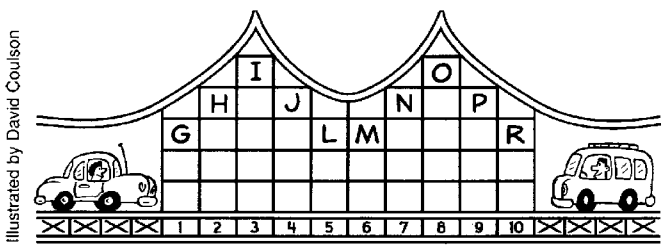


Answers: 1. A skating pond. 2. A dandy lion (dandelion). 3. Sunday, because all the rest are week (week) days. 4. On the outside. 5. Make the trousers and vest first.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

A WORD BRIDGE!



Illustrated by David Coulson

The bridge above contains 10 supporting words. We give you the first letter of each word, plus plenty of hints.

1. A long, narrow fish.
2. A metal fastener.
3. Found on computer screens.
4. Jazz musicians' talk.
5. Record of ship's progress.
6. A boy's best friend.
7. A colorful sign.
8. Often referred to as golden.
9. Eastern pocket bread.
10. Slang for wonderful

Answers: 1. Gar. 2. Hasp. 3. Icons. 4. Jive. 5. Log. 6. Mom. 7. Neon. 8. Oldie. 9. Pita. 10. Rad.

© 2009 King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

FIND THE "MAGIC" NUMBER! What number can you add to each figure in our math expression to make the statement correct?

Answer: Place a "2" above and to the right of each figure. This will "square" each figure, giving the correct expression: 9 + 16 = 25.

HERE'S A "HONEY" OF A PUZZLE! At right is a word square. You are challenged to find the four five-letter words that match the definitions below. All words used must read the same both across and down.

1. Looking very pale.
2. To look with favor upon.
3. Hives (given).
4. To single out.
5. What hives are.

1	2	3	4	5
2		H		
3	H	I	V	E
4		E		
5		S		

Answers: 1. Ashen. 2. Smile. 3. Hives. 4. Elect. 5. Nests.

Adopting a cat

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I am planning to adopt a cat, and I have decided that the local shelter is the best place to do so—not classified ads or a cat breeder. Do you have any advice on things to look for?—Sally in Branson, Mo.

DEAR SALLY: First, congratulations on your decision. I agree that the local shelter is often the best place to look for a new cat. Shelters always have many pets looking for a home, but besides that, many of them offer pet ownership classes and discounts or rebates for medical procedures such as spaying/neutering.

You likely will be asked a few questions by the shelter personnel before you can even go and look at a pet. They need to make sure you are able to care for a cat throughout its life. Shelters do not allow college students or vacationers to adopt. They also will explain any fees or additional requirements for adoption.

When it's time to find your new cat, look over each prospect closely and ask plenty of questions. How old is the cat? Is it already sterilized? What is its general temperament (sometimes hard to tell in a stressed environment)? Does it have any known health issues? Shelter personnel will give you as much information as they can about each cat.

Give prospects a visual once-over from nose to tail. Healthy cats have a clean nose with no wheezing, white teeth and pink gums, clear and lively eyes, and clean ears. Lift the tail and check for signs of diarrhea or distress such as swelling. The fur should be fluffy and clean with no bare patches, and not ratty—or spiky-looking. Watch how it moves, runs and plays.

Once you've adopted a new companion, schedule a veterinary appointment as soon as possible for a physical checkup to make sure your cat is as healthy as possible.

■ ■ ■

Send your tips, questions and comments to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or e-mail them to pawscorner@hotmail.com.

(c) 2009 King Features Synd., Inc.

Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ It was award-winning author Robert A. Heinlein, widely known as one of the Grand Masters of science fiction, who made the following sage observation: "Progress isn't made by early risers. It's made by lazy men trying to find easier ways to do something."

■ Have you ever heard of a claque? Probably not, since their effectiveness depends largely upon others not knowing they exist. A claque is a group of people who have been hired to make a show seem more successful by applauding the performers.

■ In ancient China it was believed that poison would cause anything made of silver to turn black—which explains why Chinese emperors used chopsticks made of the valuable metal.

■ Widely reported in the media this year have been the 200th anniversary of the births of Abraham Lincoln and Charles Darwin, but there's another birthday that's gotten somewhat less press: This year Guinness turns 250. In was in 1759 that Arthur Guinness started brewing his celebrated beer—and got a remarkably good real-estate deal, too. He signed a 9,000-year lease on the now-famous St. James's Gate Brewery in Dublin, paying 45 British pounds per year for the privilege.

■ As summer—and bathing-suit season—approaches, you might be interested to know that the most popular type of cosmetic surgery in the United States is liposuction.

■ Most lizards are harmless reptiles, but there are some that are known to be venomous. Rather than avoiding these rare creatures, however, there are some who seek them out for the very venom that makes them dangerous. It seems that there's a component to the venom that causes blood pressure to drop in humans, which could save thousands of lives.

■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "Silent gratitude isn't much use to anyone."—Gladys Browyn Stern

(c) 2009 King Features Synd., Inc.

MAGIC MAZE ● PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES

X E F C C O L L E C T I O N S
Z X V R T R H Y D E P A R K E
P I N D E P E N D E N C E C I
N L J H E E E C A Y A W P O R
A U S T I N M V A N T H A R A
R P N S E I R O T I S O P E R
L K I L G E C O N B Z O E L B
X W I N O T N U A T S V R T I
U B S R P O M L L J I E S T L
A S D R O C E R T G E R D I 3
B A Y A D N I L A B R O Y L 1

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

13 libraries
Abilene
Atlanta
Austin
Canton
Collections
Freemont
Hyde Park
Independence
Little Rock
Papers
Records
Repositories
Staunton
Yorba Linda

© 2009 King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

	+		x		25
+		÷		–	
	–		x		12
x		+		x	
	x		–		25
28		10		14	

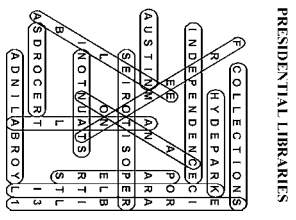
1 2 3 4 4 5 6 7 8

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

© 2009 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



GO FIGURE ANSWER

25	5	x	4	+	1
12	3	x	2	–	6
25	7	–	8	x	4
28	14		10		

Sandpaper art surprise

Donna's Day — Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

Kids are always eager to draw pictures. They know firsthand the pleasure of putting crayon to paper (and to the occasional wall or two) to express what's in their imagination. Enhance your children's natural creativity and love of art by offering them new experiences using basic art supplies and unexpected items to challenge and surprise—in this case, crayons in bright colors and sandpaper out of the toolbox.

The texture of the sandpaper will create a beautiful picture made up of tiny dots that resemble pointillism, a painting technique used by postimpressionist painter Georges Seurat. He used thousands of dots of color that you can see up close but that blend into an image when you step back, away from the painting.

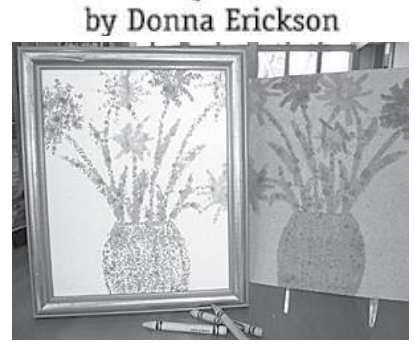
Try these steps to create a wonderful piece of pointillist-like art in seconds. What's the magic ingredient? A dot, your kids might say? Uh-uh. An iron! Here's how:

Pick out an array of bright crayons. Vibrant blues, greens, purples and reds are great.

Create a drawing on a sheet of medium-grain sandpaper, pressing very hard as you color. Designs that use blocks of color rather than thick lines work best here. Again, press hard as you fill in the shapes with your crayons.

When you're done, turn the sandpaper over on top of a plain, white piece of drawing or construction paper. An adult should heat up an iron on low temperature and then iron the backside of the sandpaper as if ironing a hanky. Pass it over the back evenly and slowly for 15 to 20 seconds. Remove iron.

Count to 20 with your kids, and then slowly pick up the sandpaper to reveal the picture on the paper in dot form. There it is. Sandpaper pointillism! Never mind French postimpressionists for the moment. You'll have your own very "impressive" artist in residence.



Encourage your child to look closely to see the dots, then step away and discover how they blend together. Note how crayon melted on the sandpaper, too, providing a "two for one" art project.

The grandkids are coming!" tip: Plan a follow-up activity and take your grandkids to an art museum in your area to see an exhibition of French impressionists. Or, visit your public library and find large art books with paintings of impressionists and postimpressionists.

■ ■ ■

Donna Erickson's award-winning television series "Donna's Day" airs on public television nationwide. Visit www.donnasday.com to find out when it airs on your local PBS station and to sign up for Donna's e-newsletter.

(c) 2009 Donna Erickson
Distributed by King Features Synd.

Life & Style

Showy, fearless Lambert inspires passion in fans

NEW YORK (AP)—The other night, after her 3-year-old son was in bed, confirmed Adam Lambert fanatic Sue Murrell was glued to her DVR, watching "American Idol."

She was also glued to her computer, chatting with members of the pro-Lambert Facebook group she founded. And to her phone, too, where she voted for Lambert at least 100 times in two hours.

"My husband thinks I'm totally nuts," says the 35-year-old Illinois mom, an office manager for a moving company.

Perhaps, but there are millions just like Murrell, fans whose passions have been inspired by the unabashedly campy, cheerfully over-the-top Lambert, with his black nail polish, his "guyliner" and that jet-black, asymmetrical mop of hair that has no place in the natural world.

But then, perhaps nothing about Lambert, who will face the late-blooming Arkansas crooner Kris Allen in next week's finale, is truly of this world; all season long, the judges have praised the rocker in terms sometimes touching on the metaphysical.

"You are a rock GOD!" crowed Kara DioGuardi after his rendition of Led Zeppelin's "Whole Lotta Love." "Dawg, you're one of the best we've ever had on this stage," opined Randy Jackson after Lambert's "Cryin'," by Aerosmith. Simon Cowell had no comment for Lambert's "Mad World," by Tears for Fears—just a very rare standing ovation.

And leave it to Paula Abdul to come up with this one: "You dare to dance in the path of greatness," she told Lambert after "Born to be Wild"—not even one of his better-received performances.

If the judges have seemed to gush over Lambert, it was more surprising to see a guest singer express her unsolicited preference—during her performance. Katy Perry, performing "Waking Up in Vegas" on Wednesday, started out in a glittery cape emblazoned with Lambert's name.

Of course, there's always a certain mania surrounding "American Idol" contestants. But this year feels a little different. "There definitely is a new level of hysteria this season," says Caryn Ganz, deputy editor of Rolling Stone's Web site, rollingstone.com, which gets hundreds of emotional fan posts every time it recaps an "Idol" show.

AP

In this photo released by FOX, Adam Lambert performs in front of the judges on American Idol on Tuesday, May 12, 2009 in Los Angeles.

Partly this can be attributed to the high quality of the final four singers—besides Lambert and Allen, who now face a very competitive finale, with only a million out of 88 million votes separating them this week, there was the gravelly voiced Danny Gokey, voted off Wednesday, and the throaty teenager Allison Iraheta, whose duet with Lambert to "Slow Ride" was a season favorite.

But it's also because Lambert has evoked so much passion from both fans and detractors. One thing on which almost everyone agrees: The dude, as Jackson would say, can sing. (The word "pitchy" does not apply.) But his critics are annoyed by the embellishments, particularly his high-frequency wails—glorious high notes to fans, but screams to others.

"Adam outclassed Danny and Kris? How? By out-shrieking them?" wrote the aptly named "awfuladam" on newsday.com's blog this week. "Danny and Kris SANG their songs, Adam, well, I don't know what the heck you call that but it wasn't singing."

For Lambert fans, the low point this season was the night two weeks ago when the rocker, long assumed to be out in front by a mile, was suddenly relegated to the bottom three vote-getters. On rollingstone.com, there was an outpouring of fury and hurt. "We got 500 posts after that night's recap, 80 percent of them outraged," says Ganz.

On her own blog, Idol Tracker, Ann Powers found herself shocked at the depth of her feelings.

"I was haunted by my own reaction to Lambert's near-elimination. Why do I care so much that he makes it? It's embarrassing," she wrote. Then, touching on his potential outcast appeal, she remembered checking out a David Bowie album as a youngster and thinking, "This guy is really strange and proud of it, I could be proud of myself, too. I look at Adam Lambert, and hear him sing, and think he might give that gift to some kids out there."

Lambert, 27, has spoken of his childhood in San Diego, and how he always loved dressing up, but wasn't exactly into soccer. He performed in musical theater as a youngster, and more recently appeared in the Los Angeles cast of "Wicked." He once appeared opposite Val Kilmer's Moses in "The Ten Commandments: The Musical"—getting the show's only good notices.

Lambert's theater training clearly infuses his "Idol" performances, both in his supreme confidence and in his penchant for changing his look to fit the song. While Allen, a gentle, 23-year-old worship leader who favors singing with his acoustic guitar, prefers T-shirts and jeans—one can't imagine he stretches his "Idol" wardrobe allowance—Lambert turned up in a silvery suit and 1960s pompadour on Motown night.

But most often, he's in androgynous rocker mode—the earrings, the nail polish, the heavy eyeliner. He's been compared to such artists as David Bowie, Steven Tyler and Pete Wentz.

Then there's the widespread speculation—actually, a widespread assumption—that Lambert is gay, based on widely viewed photos on the Web that appear to show him kissing another man. Lambert himself has said nothing—other than to say he has nothing to hide. But plenty of people are talking nonetheless: The latest cover of Entertainment Weekly headlines Lambert as "The Most Exciting American Idol Contestant in Years," with an asterisk to the line: "And Not Just Because He Might Be Gay."

The media interest stems mostly from the question of whether a gay or bisexual singer could win "American Idol." Clay Aiken, the season 2 runner-up, did not come out until years later. But with Lambert, whatever his sexuality, the question seems beside the point: People don't seem to care. He has a varied fan base, and gets his share of the tween girl screams in the "Idol" theater, though not as many as Allen, a heartthrob for the younger set. Some even carry signs saying, "Marry me, Adam."

"I think fans have never really cared about people's persuasions in the world of entertainment," says Joyce Valach, 60, of Naperville, Ill. "As long as they're entertained, they're entertained." She herself was long torn between Lambert and the much different Gokey, an understated church music director from Milwaukee.

But Murrell, the founder of the Facebook group, says she gets offended when some fans write anti-Lambert posts, saying that he looks like a freak.

"I say to them, 'You just don't know what makes people unique and different,'" she says.

"But you know, 'Idol' just brings out the craziness in some people."

Hollywood lands in DC for 'Museum' premiere

WASHINGTON (AP)—Abraham Lincoln rises from his chair at his memorial to keep the peace among warring characters from history who came to life Thursday in the premiere of the film, "Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian."

It was the first Hollywood premiere ever for the world's largest museum complex, the Smithsonian Institution, which is also the setting for the sequel to 2006's "Night at the Museum." And one of the most popular of its 19 museums, the National Air and Space Museum, rolled out the red carpet for stars of Hollywood and politics alike.

The film's stars, Ben Stiller, Amy Adams, Robin Williams, Owen Wilson and Hank Azaria, mixed with Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts and members of Congress.

Stiller, who starred in both movies, said he was happy the way the sequel turned out.

"The Smithsonian was the springboard for doing the whole thing again," Stiller said.

Stiller's character, security guard Larry Daley, comes to Washington to find his museum friends from the first movie, who had been shipped from New York to a mythical vault under the National Mall.

AP

Christine Taylor, left, and her husband Ben Stiller, walk the red carpet at the premier for "Night At The Museum: Battle Of The Smithsonian" at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, Thursday, May 14, 2009.

"Creatively, I think it turned out better than the first movie," Director Shawn Levy said.

The new film adds a romantic twist between Stiller's character and Amelia Earhart, played by Adams.

"I have always admired women who take a step out of traditional roles and take a chance," Adams said. "She was able to make such an impact in a man's world."

Neil Patrick Harris set to host Tony Awards show

NEW YORK (AP)—From Doogie to Barney to Tony.

Neil Patrick Harris will host the 2009 Tony Awards, honoring the best of the Broadway season. The show will be broadcast on CBS on June 7 (8 p.m.-11 p.m. EDT) from Radio City Music Hall.

Harris

Harris has appeared in hit TV series such as "How I Met Your Mother," where he plays the womanizing Barney Stinson, and "Doogie Howser, M.D." On Broadway, he has appeared in the revivals of "Cabaret" and in "Assassins" (playing the Balladeer and Lee Harvey Oswald) as well as in the Tony-winning drama "Proof."

"The discipline of live theater—doing the same perfect thing night after night, eight times a week—never ceases to amaze me," Harris said in a statement Thursday. "I'm truly honored to have been chosen as the master of ceremonies for this year's Tony Awards, and I hope to help provide a first-class evening for all."

The nominations in 27 competitive categories were announced May 5. Competing for best musical are "Billy Elliot," "Next to Normal," "Rock of Ages" and "Shrek The Musical." Best play nominees are "Dividing the Estate," "God of Carnage," "reasons to be pretty" and "33 Variations." Winners will be chosen by more than 800 members of the theater community.

The Tonys are presented by the Broadway League, the industry trade group, and the American Theatre Wing, which founded the awards in 1947.

Pearl Jam bassist mugged outside Atlanta studio

ATLANTA (AP)—Pearl Jam bassist Jeff Ament was mugged outside an Atlanta studio where the band is recording, police said.

Three masked men dressed mostly in black came out of the woods behind Southern Tracks recording studio and attacked Ament and employee Mark Anthony Smith as they arrived in a rented Jeep late last month, DeKalb County police said.

Police say the men smashed three of the Jeep's windows and grabbed a Blackberry and two computers and demanded money. Ament jumped out of the passenger side and tried to run, but one of the men knocked him to the ground and stole his passport.

Ament

The men got away with $3,000 cash, along with computers and other equipment worth more than $4,000. Paramedics treated Ament for head injuries.

Surveillance cameras recorded the incident but no one has been arrested.

Pearl Jam management had no comment Thursday.

Southern Tracks is a studio in north Atlanta that's worked with artists including Aerosmith, Stone Temple Pilots and Bob Dylan.

Rolling Stone reports Pearl Jam is working on an album they plan to release themselves in the United States.

Gerard Butler charged with battery in LA

AP

In this Feb. 22, 2009, file photo, actor Gerard Butler poses on the press line at the Elton John Academy Award viewing and after party in West Hollywood, Calif.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—City prosecutors have charged Gerard Butler with misdemeanor battery in connection with a scuffle with a paparazzo.

Records show prosecutors filed the charge in a Hollywood courthouse on Wednesday.

Los Angeles City Attorney spokesman Frank Mateljan said Butler faces up to six months in jail if convicted.

Mateljan said the Scottish-born actor had a run-in with a photographer early on Oct. 7 in Hollywood after leaving a premiere party for the film "RocknRolla."

Butler's manager, Alan Siegel, said that the actor was forced to have his driver stop the car after a paparazzo repeatedly sped through red lights and almost struck two pedestrians.

The actor's attorney, Blair Berk, said Butler is not required to—and won't—appear in court on the charge.

Butler, 39, is perhaps best-known for his role in 2006's hit "300," and starred in "RocknRolla." Butler's next big screen release will be this summer's "The Ugly Truth," a romantic comedy also starring Katherine Heigl.

Kate Gosselin says it's tough being in spotlight

MUSKEGON, Mich. (AP)—Kate Gosselin, co-star of TLC's "Jon & Kate Plus 8," says it's difficult reading stories about herself.

Recent media reports have focused a harsh spotlight on Kate and her husband, Jon, who star with their eight children on the popular reality show. In recent days, the Gosselins' wholesome on-screen home life has been called into question by reports of extramarital affairs. Both Jon and Kate have denied those accusations.

"This is certainly not what I envisioned I was signing up for," Kate Gosselin said Wednesday during an appearance at the Frauenthal Center, The Muskegon Chronicle reported.

"When I see magazines in stores it's really difficult. It amazes me there is an industry that follows you around and writes stories about you.

"It destroys peoples' lives. I need you to know, don't believe what you read unless you hear it from that person."

On its Web site, Us Weekly recently described an overfriendly relationship between Gosselin and her married bodyguard, Steve Neild, that "caught the attention of her husband—and has become the talk of many locals" in their Pennsylvania community.

Gosselin

People magazine's Web site quoted Gosselin as saying the couple have been struggling for months.

"This week I'm on the cover of four magazines. One is true, three are not," Kate told her audience.

The Gosselins are on the cover of People, Us Weekly, Star and National Enquirer. She described People's reporting as the most accurate.

She has previously denied having an affair with Neild. Jon Gosselin has denied cheating with a 23-year-old schoolteacher, and he has apologized for putting his family in an "awkward situation."

Kate Gosselin said the stop in Muskegon, located about 35 miles northwest of Grand Rapids, was the last on her travel schedule for a while. She said she plans to spend more time at home.

"The last couple weeks have been interesting," she said. "I had to address that."

TLC's most popular series, which has been on the air for four seasons, attracts an average audience of more than 2.8 million viewers. The new, 40-week season premieres May 25 with an hourlong edition.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Redford teams up to train minority filmmakers

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP)—Robert Redford is collaborating with the state of New Mexico to expand training for Native American and Hispanic filmmakers. The program, "Sundance in New Mexico," will be based at Los Luceros, a state-owned historic home along the Rio Grande. It will be used for programs and workshops. The actor and director, who puts on the yearly Sundance Film Festival, says the program grew out of his long-standing love for the state and his commitment to furthering opportunities for American Indian and Hispanic filmmakers. The collaboration begins this weekend with a panel discussion featuring director John Sayles and others in Santa Fe.

Alec Baldwin, NY Philharmonic to go to Hanoi

NEW YORK (AP)—Actor Alec Baldwin says he'll travel to Hanoi with the New York Philharmonic when it makes its Vietnam debut in October. The star of NBC's Emmy-award winning comedy "30 Rock" begins a side gig this fall as the new host of the national radio broadcast "The New York Philharmonic This Week." The orchestra will travel to Vietnam for two concerts at the Hanoi Opera House in October. During an appearance Tuesday on "The Late Show with David Letterman," the actor from Long Island called the hosting job "one of the greatest things to ever happen to me." He joked that the New York Philharmonic knew where to find him because "all of the people who are prominent in classical music come from two locations: Vienna or Massapequa, Long Island."

Danny Gokey has big plans for life after 'Idol'

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Danny Gokey (GO'-key) has big plans for his life after "American Idol." Besides touring this summer with the top 10 finalists, the former church music director from Milwaukee plans to work more with Sophia's Heart Foundation. He started it after his wife, Sophia, died during surgery for a congenital heart defect last summer. The 29-year-old also wants to start his own eyeglass line and make a "soulful" album with rhythm and blues mixed with salsa and merengue beats. Gokey was voted off the popular Fox singing competition Wednesday night. In a conference call Thursday, Gokey said his much-talked about scream at the end of Aerosmith's "Dream On" might have been a variable in getting voted off.

Rapper DMX released from Phoenix jail

PHOENIX (AP)—DMX has been released from a Phoenix jail after serving a 90-day sentence for felony convictions. The rapper, whose real name is Earl Simmons, left a Maricopa County jail Thursday on a $10,000 bond. Simmons' lawyer, Glenn Allen, said his client was in good spirits and was still in Maricopa County. "He's extremely happy that he's home," Allen said. "We look forward to being able to handle his case with him out of custody." A spokeswoman for the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office says Simmons will likely return to court to face charges added while in jail. Simmons was booked on a charge of probation violation and aggravated assault for allegedly throwing a tray at a jail officer.

A tear-jerking season finale for 'Grey's Anatomy'

NEW YORK (AP)—"Grey's Anatomy" hands Dr. Isobel Stevens a fateful choice on its fifth-season finale. Izzie must decide if she should have risky brain surgery for the cancer that has plagued her this season. She wrestles with the decision as her fellow doctors at Seattle Grace Hospital pull her in opposite directions. She opts for the surgery. It seems to be successful. But she comes out of it unable to remember anything. Then her memory returns, just long enough for her to joyfully hug Alex, who she married last week. Then, shockingly, she dies. But it may not be such a shocker. She's played by Katherine Heigl (HY'-guhl), who's leaving the ABC medical drama to concentrate on movies.

Gifted student feels alone among her average friends

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I am 12 and in seventh grade. I have the highest GPA of my six close friends. Sometimes they call me "Freaky Genius Girl." When I make jokes, none of my friends comprehend what I'm saying.

Right now I am tutoring three of them and often get calls from the others asking me how to do the homework. I like my friends, but I wish I had someone other than my mother to have an intellectual conversation with. Should I find new pals or tone down my abilities when I'm with them?

TOO SMART FOR FRIENDS?

DEAR TOO SMART?: Rather than try to "dumb yourself down" with your classmates, ask your mother to help you find a special interest group where you can interact with other girls and boys who are also intellectually advanced. Many school districts offer special classes for gifted students. In addition, explore activities where you can simply let yourself go and have some fun—like sports, music, drama or art. You're a bright girl and you deserve some time to simply be carefree.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I always dreamed of having a formal black-and-white wedding. I have four bridesmaids who have very different shapes and sizes. It wasn't easy choosing a dress that would fit them all. I thought I was being fair by choosing the skirt length and letting them select from a few different styles of tops.

One of the girls is now telling me she refuses to wear what I selected. She says it is "ridiculous" to make her wear it, and it will make her look stupid. (They are normal-looking dresses, Abby, not outdated or too trendy.)

She has e-mailed me several pictures of dresses she likes, but I don't care for them. Am I being a Bridezilla, or does she need to learn some wedding etiquette? Should I stand my ground—after all, it is my day—and risk losing a friendship?

BRIDE-TO-BE IN MINNESOTA

DEAR BRIDE-TO-BE: You would not be a Bridezilla to remind this young woman whose wedding it is. And when you do, tell her you do not want her to be uncomfortable and you will "understand" if she wishes to back out. Believe me, the last thing you need is for her to be pouting when the pictures are taken on your wedding day.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My mother-in-law bought me a pair of shoes while we were out shopping one afternoon. The boutique was pricey, but she insisted I get them. The next day I got a phone call from her saying she had "borrowing rights" because they cost more than she had expected. I was shocked about the price, too.

Now I'm embarrassed and wonder if I should reimburse her for half the cost, which I'm willing to do. What should I do?

STEPPING OUT IN SAN ANTONIO

DEAR STEPPING OUT: Your mother-in-law bought WHOM a pair of shoes? Unless her feet are the same size or smaller than yours, I do not recommend sharing them. Once you do they will be stretched and will no longer fit you properly.

Because she has let you know she covets the shoes, consider giving them to her. Alternatively, if they have never been worn, consider returning them to the shop where they were purchased. That way your impulsive M.I.L. can get her money back or a store credit.

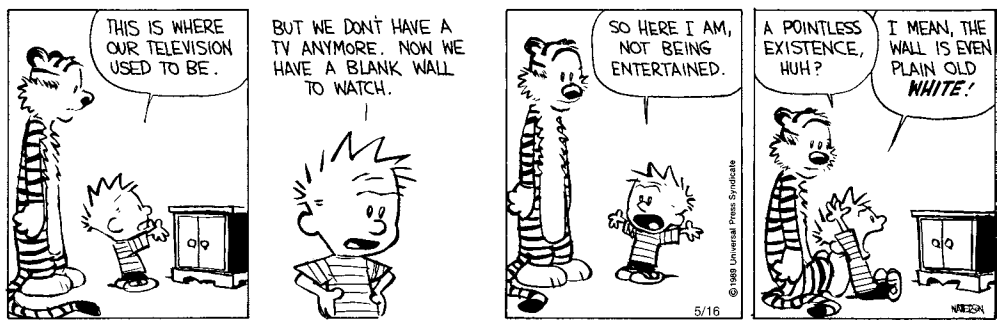
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


THIS IS WHERE OUR TELEVISION USED TO BE.
BUT WE DON'T HAVE A TV ANYMORE. NOW WE HAVE A BLANK WALL TO WATCH.
SO HERE I AM, NOT BEING ENTERTAINED.
A POINTLESS EXISTENCE, HUH?
I MEAN, THE WALL IS EVEN PLAIN OLD WHITE!
5/16
© 1989 Universal Press Syndicate

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

DON'T TRY TO CHALLENGE MY AUTHORITY, GARFIELD
NO, SIR, I WON'T
YOU CAN'T CHALLENGE WHAT YOU IGNORE
www.garfield.com
© 2009 PAWS, INC. All rights Reserved.
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate
JIM DAVIS 5-16

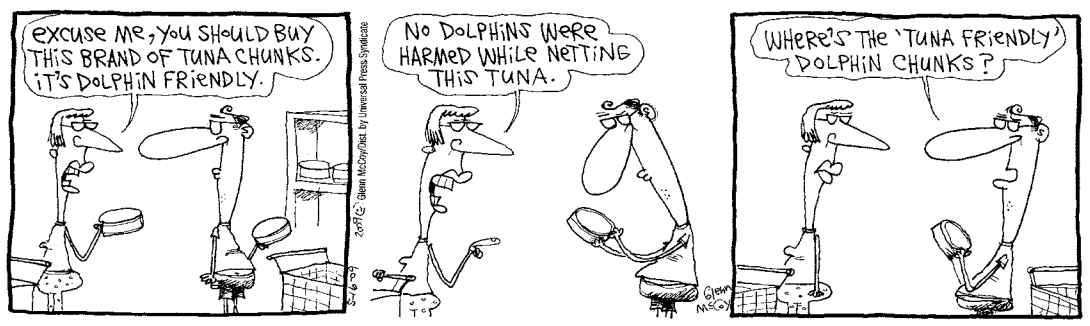
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

HI, KIDS, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WALKING OUR IMAGINARY DOG.
OH, OKAY. HAVE FUN. KEEP HIM OFF MY LAWN! HEE HEE.
MR. WETZEL MUST BE GETTING OLD. HE COULDN'T EVEN TELL OUR IMAGINARY DOG WAS A GIRL.
5/16
© 2009 Universal Press Syndicate
www.gocomics.com

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


excuse me, you SHOULD BUY THIS BRAND OF TUNA CHUNKS. IT'S DOLPHIN FRIENDLY.
No DOLPHINS WERE HARMED WHILE NETTING THIS TUNA.
WHERE'S THE 'TUNA FRIENDLY' DOLPHIN CHUNKS?
© 2009 Glenn McCoy/Dist. by Universal Press Syndicate

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

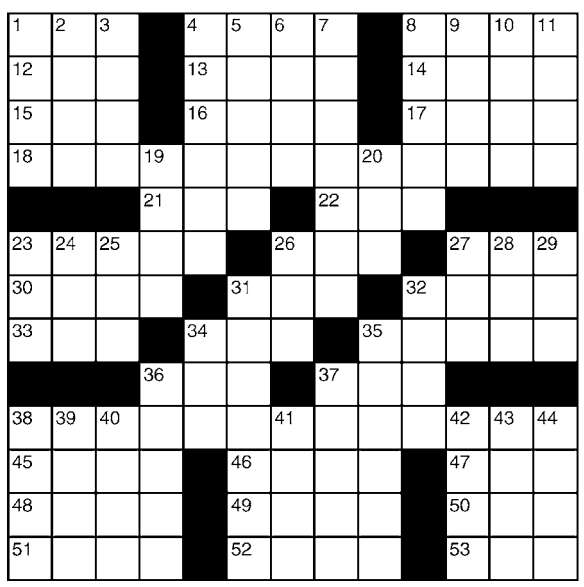
ACROSS
1 Adversary
4 Amorphous mass
8 Leading man
12 Legislation
13 Teeny bit
14 South American capital
15 Foolhardiness personified
16 Earth
17 Squared
18 Sitcom that debuted in 1977
21 Expert
22 Fed. med. research group
23 Tin Man's want
26 Shriner's chapeau
27 PETA concern
30 Primary
31 Johnny's successor
32 Secure
33 Silent
34 Indulge in pugilism
35 Church council
36 Blond shade
37 Baltimore newspaper
38 Outing for co-workers
45 On
46 Pigeonhole
47 Prior to
48 "— never work"
49 Hydrox competitor
50 Trinity member
51 Bump
52 — -do-well
53 Potent chemical

DOWN
1 Apartment
2 Inauguration recitation
3 Basin accessory
4 Halve
5 Slack
6 Ear-related
7 Hogwash
8 Beth preceder
9 Prima donna
10 "So be it"
11 Billions and billions
19 Deserve
20 "Les —" (Broadway hit)
23 "Good question"
24 Perfume-label word
25 Intention
26 E-mail alternative
27 Enthusiast
28 E.T.'s craft
29 Voting Republican
31 Boswell's subject
32 Harmonization
34 Medal-giving org.
35 Wannabe spouse
36 Tell target
37 Binge
38 First born?
39 Sgt. Snorkel's dog
40 Aspic need
41 Bygone times
42 Fit in snugly
43 Press agent?
44 Minimal change

Solution time: 27 mins.

L	A	S	■	M	A	S	■	P	A	G	E	D
I	L	L	■	A	N	T	■	I	N	U	R	E
T	A	U	■	R	O	O	T	C	A	N	A	L
H	M	M	■	C	R	O	A	K	■	■	■	■
O	O	P	S	■	A	P	R	■	P	I	C	S
■	■	■	E	L	K	■	P	L	A	Q	U	E
E	L	O	P	E	■	■	A	S	S	E	T	■
T	A	R	T	A	R	■	C	O	T	■	■	■
A	G	R	A	■	O	B	I	■	A	C	M	E
■	■	■	■	A	C	U	T	E	■	Y	A	M
D	E	N	T	I	S	T	R	Y	■	B	U	B
A	M	O	U	R	■	T	U	E	■	E	V	E
B	U	G	G	Y	■	E	S	S	■	R	E	D

Yesterday's answer 5-16



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tori Spelling, 36; David Boreanaz, 40; Janet Jackson, 43; Pierce Brosnan, 56

Happy Birthday: Time may appear to be on your side but the longer you hesitate, the less you will get. The ability to think and act fast will help you hold your place in a dog-eat-dog world. If you can establish yourself as someone who is willing to take action, others will follow you. This is a year of turbulence but victory can be yours. Your numbers are 2, 12, 15, 25, 28, 33, 48

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Spend quality time with people you cherish most. Your love and desire to help others will be fulfilled by an opportunity you are given. Something that allows you to put your skills to work will turn into a regular pastime. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Speak the truth and you will have nothing to fear. Don't let anyone coerce you into doing or saying something you aren't comfortable with. Before you are critiqued, recheck what you've been working on and correct any flaws. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You will hook up with someone who interests you but, before you become too engaged, consider how it will affect the people already in your life. A skill or idea you have can be incorporated into a moneymaking scheme. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): You'll get someone all fired up if you play both ends against the middle and meddle in the affairs of others. Stay low key and let things unfold naturally. A romantic incident will cause you to rethink your current status. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Relax, have fun and enjoy the company of the people you love most. A family affair, getting together with a lover or even starting a new relationship will all go well. Attend an interesting event or take a weekend away. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Give more thought to what you want to do next and you'll find a course that interests you or someone ideal to teach you. Traveling to face some pending problems will turn out to be more costly and less effective than e-mailing or calling. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Take what you want but don't be greedy. You will have the upper hand and be able to call the shots. Networking and socializing will lead to romance. Don't overspend. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Take a back seat when it comes to family feuds and you will avoid trouble. You can spend your time better working out some of the kinks you come up against while working on a creative project. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Acceptance will be the key to your success. A relationship is looking very steamy and the possibility of getting together with someone who might be off-limits will be tempting. Don't exaggerate about your past. ✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Relax and have some fun with friends or family. You can interest someone in one of your ideas or make future plans for a reunion with old friends. A chance to put some money into something you'd like to develop will arise. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): You'll be emotional and easily set off by what someone says. Before retaliating, realize where the criticism is coming from and let it go. Don't get upset over something so insignificant. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): There is too much being kept a secret for you to make a fair assessment or decision. Take your time—don't let anyone pressure you into something you aren't prepared to deal with. Focus on new beginnings but remember the lessons you've learned. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are strong and capable, daring and changeable. You are a master at the art of expression and can entice others to see things your way.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		5	6				2	
								7
9		2	7	5				
6		8						
		4		6		5		
						3		9
				9	7	6		1
2								
	7				4	8		

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 5/16

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

3	5	6	4	2	7	8	1	9
7	2	9	3	8	1	5	4	6
4	8	1	5	9	6	2	7	3
8	9	3	2	1	4	7	6	5
1	4	2	7	6	5	3	9	8
5	6	7	8	3	9	4	2	1
2	1	5	9	7	3	6	8	4
6	7	4	1	5	8	9	3	2
9	3	8	6	4	2	1	5	7

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 5/15

©2007 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BUILDING IMPLOSIONS **Solution: 8 letters**

P	R	E	S	S	U	R	E	S	E	G	A	M	A	D
O	R	B	A	L	A	N	C	E	D	C	N	A	C	O
S	E	E	R	O	O	L	F	N	E	P	O	T	A	W
I	W	T	C	T	P	D	R	A	W	N	I	H	B	N
T	O	A	H	I	I	H	O	T	S	E	T	E	L	R
I	T	N	I	L	S	M	A	I	N	E	C	M	E	A
O	T	O	T	W	L	E	E	S	E	N	E	A	F	L
N	U	T	E	E	A	X	R	D	E	O	R	T	F	U
O	R	E	C	R	E	K	O	U	D	T	I	I	I	C
I	B	D	T	C	A	L	Q	U	T	S	D	C	C	A
T	U	P	U	E	P	E	O	Ⓑ	Ⓐ	Ⓒ	Ⓚ	A	I	T
C	L	T	R	X	S	L	E	V	E	L	U	L	E	C
E	E	B	E	S	C	O	M	P	U	T	E	R	N	E
S	N	L	L	A	F	O	O	T	P	R	I	N	T	P
E	T	E	L	P	P	O	T	H	G	I	A	R	T	S

© 2009 Universal Press Syndicate www.wonderword.com 5/16

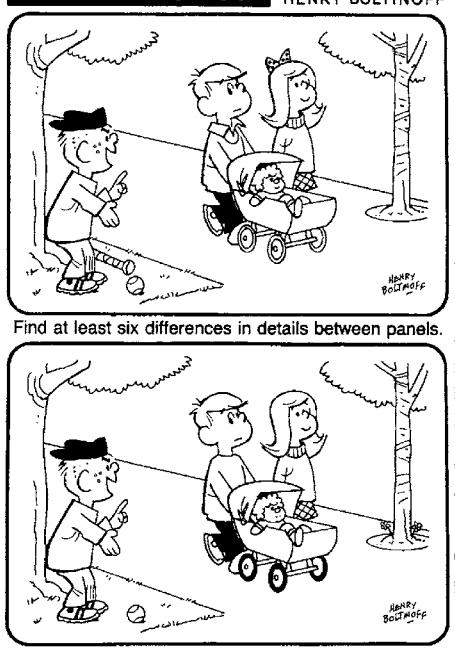
Architecture, Back, Balanced, Break, Cable, Cloud, Computer, Crew, Damages, Detonate, Direction, Down, Efficient, Execute, Explode, Fall, Floor, Footprint, Inward, Level, Main, Mathematical, Open, Phase, Position, Precise, Pressure, Section, Sequence, Spectacular, Stone, Straight, Structure, Test, Time, Topple, Tower, Turbulent

Yesterday's Answer: Vintage

Treasury 5 or 7 Send check or money order for $10.95 each plus $3.25 postage and handling each ($14.20 total each, U.S. funds only) for the first volume, $1.50 p&h for each additional volume, to Universal Press Syndicate, Attn: Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480 Order online at upuzzles.com.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

© 2009 King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

Differences: 1. Bow is missing. 2. Wheels are different. 3. Bat is gone. 4. Boy's shirt is different. 5. Flowers added near tree. 6. Tree on left is fuller.

Wishing Well®

2	3	4	3	5	2	3	5	2	5	4	6	3
P	S	P	U	Y	R	C	O	O	U	R	M	C
8	4	3	8	5	3	4	5	4	2	4	8	6
Y	A	E	O	R	S	I	E	S	S	E	U	O
3	2	5	6	8	4	3	2	5	4	2	8	4
S	P	C	R	P	C	I	E	E	O	R	L	W
2	3	8	2	6	7	4	8	3	7	6	8	5
I	S	A	T	E	N	O	N	C	O	T	A	I
7	8	7	3	7	8	6	3	2	8	2	8	6
G	C	O	L	O	R	I	O	Y	U	N	I	M
2	3	5	2	6	3	7	8	6	8	5	6	7
O	S	V	W	E	E	F	S	T	E	E	O	S
3	5	4	5	6	5	6	4	5	4	6	5	4
R	B	R	O	D	N	A	K	U	E	Y	S	R

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

© 2009 King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

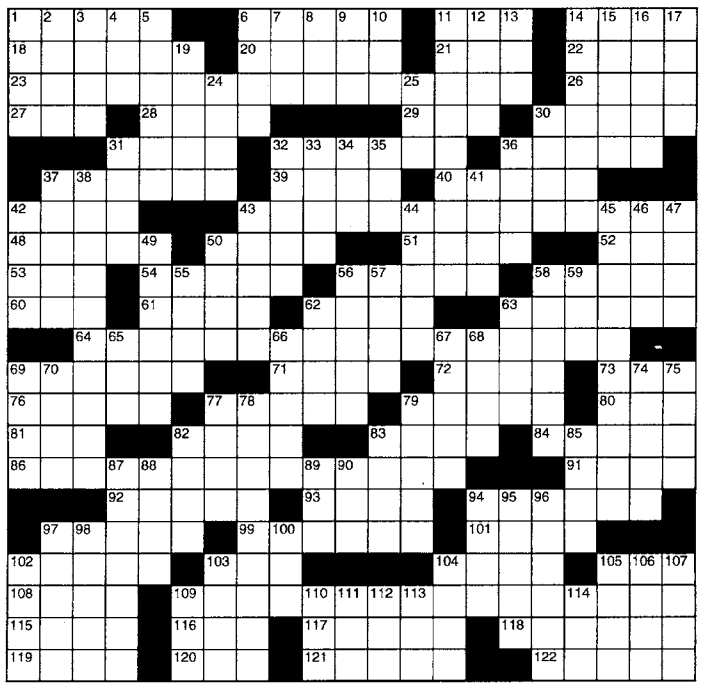
Super Crossword — WHEREABOUTS

ACROSS

1 Winning
6 In the know
11 Ingot
14 Nursery furniture
18 Hook's mate
20 Corday's prey
21 Flamenco dancer's shout
22 Mandlikova of tennis
23 "Sunrise Sunset" musical
26 Writer Hunter
27 Southern constellation
28 New Mexico resort
29 Med. test
30 Statistical focus
31 Unruffle
32 Reposes
36 Michael of "Little Voice"
37 Noxious atmosphere
39 Dock
40 Unburdens oneself
42 Ostentation
43 Alistair MacLean bestseller
48 On the — (defenseless)
50 Soft cheese
51 Schoenberg's "Moses und —"
52 —-Magnon
53 Benjamin of The Cars
54 "Salome" character
56 Elbows
58 Implied
60 Like a bairn
61 Persia, today
62 Augur
63 Stratas or Stich-Randall
64 Hitchcock opus
69 Newspaper circular
71 Deride
72 Starting at
73 Gumshoe
76 Dirties
77 Impose Prohibition, e.g.
79 Propeller part
80 Actress Thurman
81 Part of USNA
82 Small businessman?
83 Fluctuate
84 Dais covering
86 Kiddie-lit classic
91 Envelope abbr.
92 — apso
93 Neighbor of Saudi Arabia
94 Rubble or Fife
97 Bobbin
99 Kyoto companion
101 Jai —
102 Thought-provoking
103 Our omega
104 Sacred image
105 Air-quality org.
108 Hasty
109 Old folk song
115 Kitchen addition?
116 Clay, later
117 Pale purple
118 Combat mission
119 Carries out
120 Regret
121 Grind one's teeth
122 Mike of "Austin Powers"

DOWN

1 — Romeo
2 It grows on you
3 Snorri's stories
4 Count up
5 Corinthian consonants
6 "— & Andrew" ('93 film)
7 Pallid
8 Cunning
9 Stadium shout
10 Nice season
11 Where to find romance
12 Easy as falling off —
13 Part pugilists
14 '66 Association hit
15 Glossy black
16 Pointless
17 Simple ring
19 Domain
24 Downey of "Touched by an Angel"
25 Agt.
30 Lauder powder
31 Promontory
32 Cuttlefish kin
33 Velez of "Mexican Spitfire"
34 "Annabel Lee" monogram
35 Pupil's place
36 Tribe
37 Opera's Grace
38 Striking
41 Cain's nephew
42 Freighter front
43 Pitchfork part
44 Spoken for
45 Stress
46 Author Murdoch
47 "— creature was stirring . . ."
49 Prepares eggs
50 Grain husk
55 Part of Q.E.D.
56 Emulated Elle
57 Scent
58 — up (united)
59 "Exodus" protagonist
62 Submachine gun
63 Walked
65 — Aviv
66 VCR button
67 Black piano key
68 Hors d'oeuvre holder
69 "It — Right" ('56 song)
70 First zookeeper?
74 TV's "— Nest"
75 Columnist Herb
77 Geometry term
78 Williams' was glass
79 Botswana bigwig
82 List ender
83 Asian title
85 Asian title
87 Duds
88 Crow's-nest cry
89 — pollo!
90 Printer's measures
94 Cantata composer
95 Fugard's "A Lesson from —"
96 Liberation
97 Cold-war assn.
98 Ersatz emerald
100 Cartoon cry
102 Hoarse horse?
103 South African native
104 Craving
105 "Harper's Bazaar" artist
106 Brace
107 Blows away
109 Gob
110 Actress Taina
111 Chinese principle
112 Stevedores' grp.
113 Advisory org.
114 Go for it



© 2009 King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

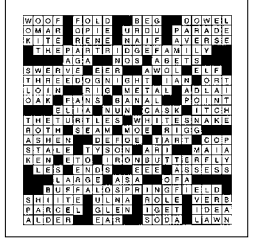
1. MOVIES: "The Sound of Music" features how many von Trapp children?
2. MUSIC: Which 1970s band released the hit "Smoke on the Water"?
3. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first U.S. president to be photographed?
4. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What kind of creature would belong in the order Chelonia?
5. GEOGRAPHY: The island of Grenada is closest to the coast of which South American country?
6. TELEVISION: Who was the longtime host of "Soul Train"?
7. HISTORY: What was an oast house used for?
8. LITERATURE: What was Ernest Hemingway's first novel?
9. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: To which British queen was the Koh-i-noor diamond given?
10. GAMES: What card game is the older game of whist most akin to?

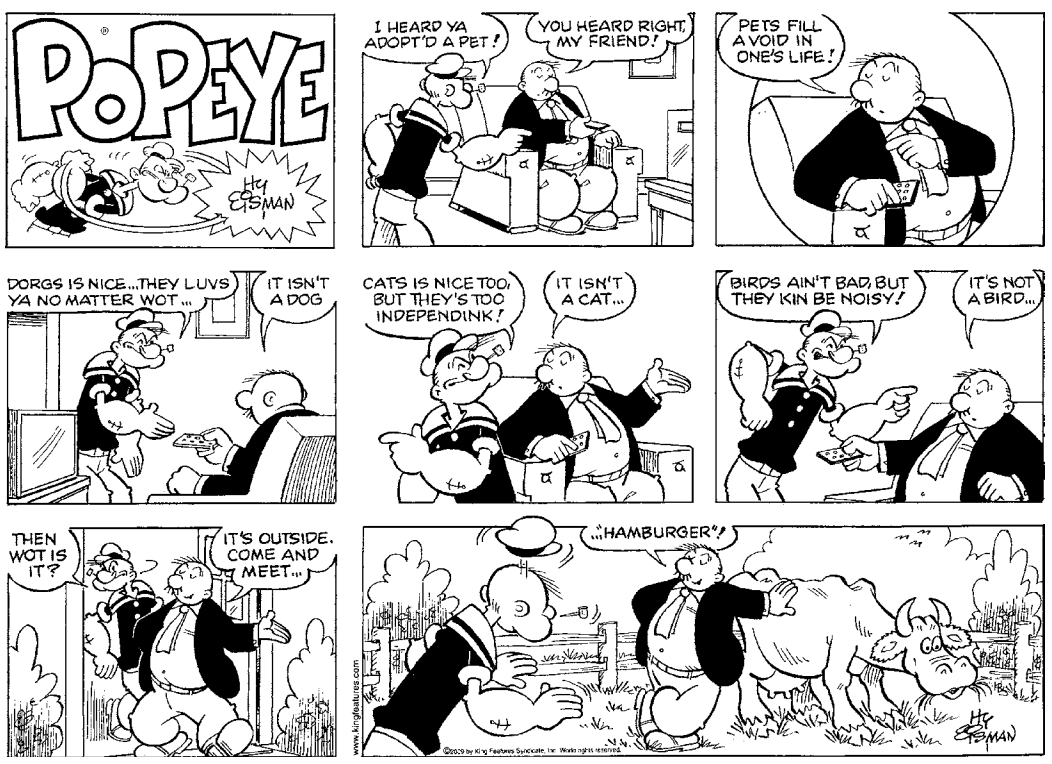
Answers

1. Seven
2. Deep Purple
3. John Quincy Adams
4. Turtles, terrapins and tortoises
5. Venezuela
6. Don Cornelius
7. Drying hops used in making beer and ale
8. "The Sun Also Rises" (1926)
9. Queen Victoria
10. Bridge

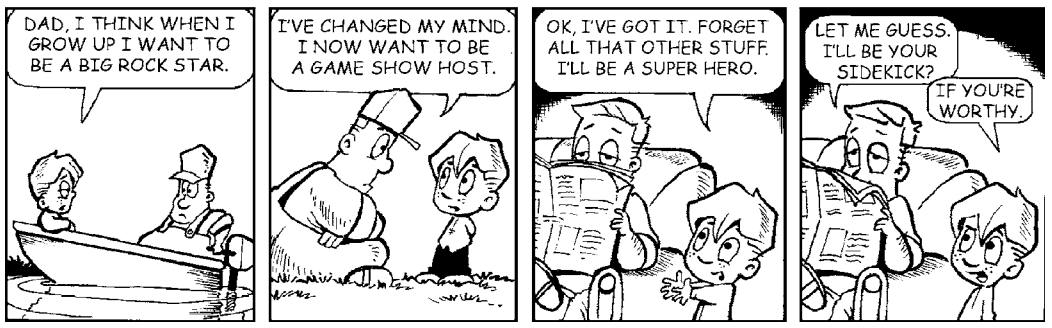
© 2009 King Features Synd., Inc.

Saturday's Answers



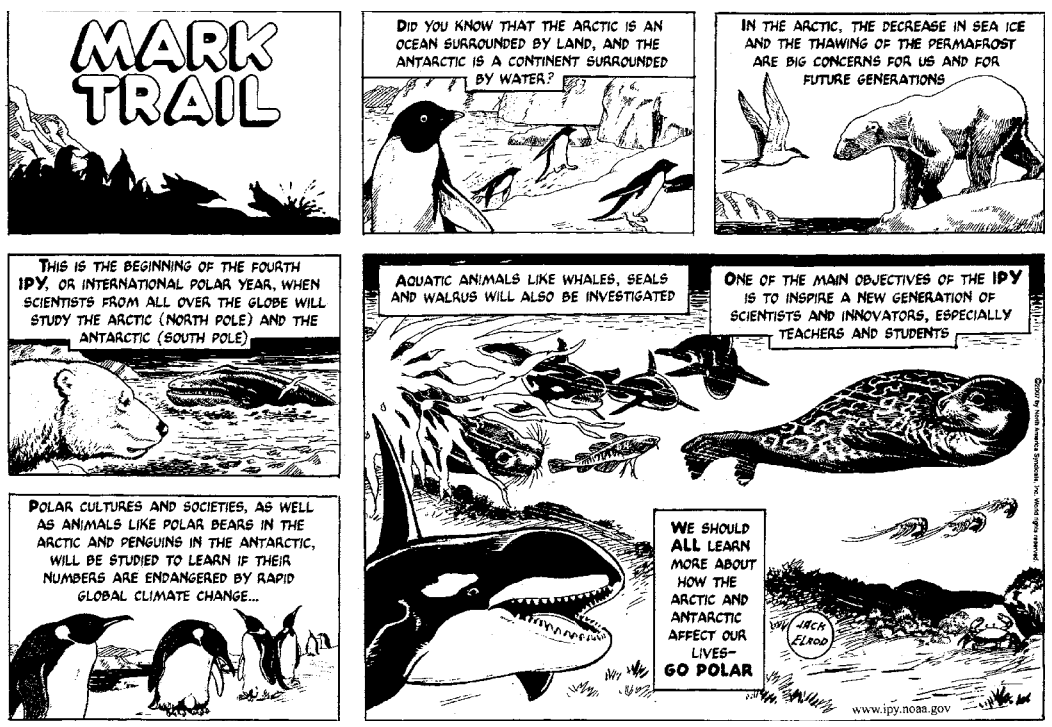

POPEYE
HY EISMAN
I HEARD YA ADOPT'D A PET!
YOU HEARD RIGHT, MY FRIEND!
PETS FILL A VOID IN ONE'S LIFE!
DORGS IS NICE...THEY LUVS YA NO MATTER WOT...
IT ISN'T A DOG
CATS IS NICE TOO, BUT THEY'S TOO INDEPENDINK!
IT ISN'T A CAT...
BIRDS AIN'T BAD, BUT THEY KIN BE NOISY!
IT'S NOT A BIRD...
THEN WOT IS IT?
IT'S OUTSIDE. COME AND MEET...
...HAMBURGER"!
www.kingfeatures.com

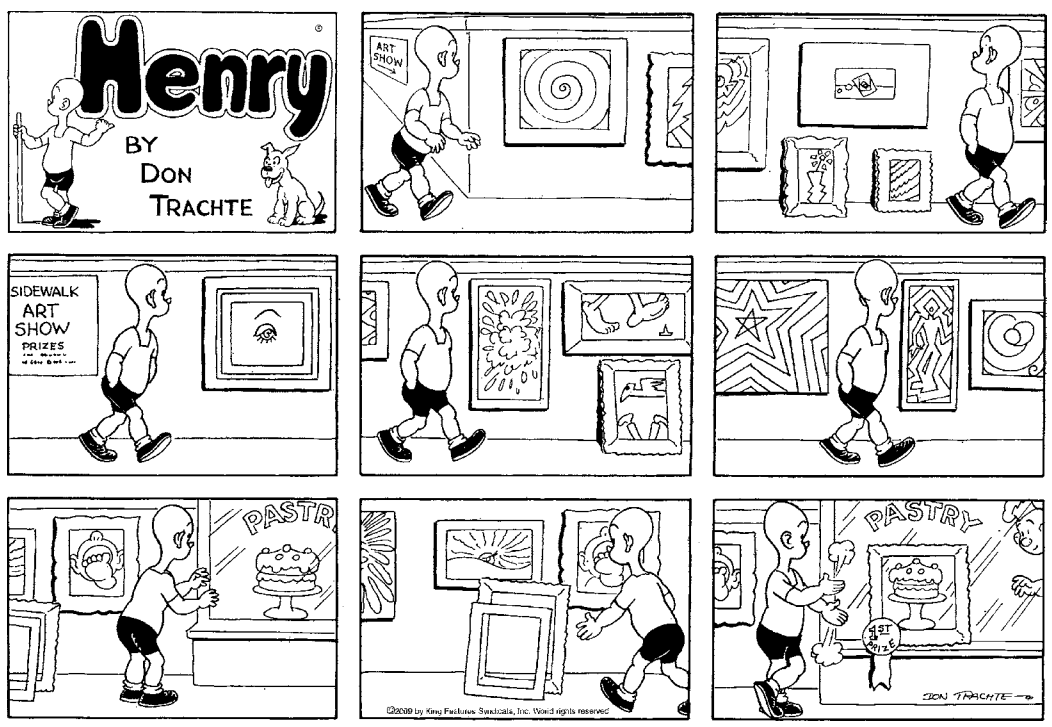
Amber Waves — by Dave T. Phipps


DAD, I THINK WHEN I GROW UP I WANT TO BE A BIG ROCK STAR.
I'VE CHANGED MY MIND. I NOW WANT TO BE A GAME SHOW HOST.
OK, I'VE GOT IT. FORGET ALL THAT OTHER STUFF. I'LL BE A SUPER HERO.
LET ME GUESS. I'LL BE YOUR SIDEKICK?
IF YOU'RE WORTHY.

The Spats — by Jeff Pickering

WHEN YOUR NEIGHBOR LOSES HIS JOB IT'S A RECESSION.
WHEN YOU LOSE YOUR JOB IT'S A DEPRESSION.
WHEN YOUR WIFE LOSES HER JOB IT'S TIME TO PANIC!!


MARK TRAIL
DID YOU KNOW THAT THE ARCTIC IS AN OCEAN SURROUNDED BY LAND, AND THE ANTARCTIC IS A CONTINENT SURROUNDED BY WATER?
IN THE ARCTIC, THE DECREASE IN SEA ICE AND THE THAWING OF THE PERMAFROST ARE BIG CONCERNS FOR US AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS
THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF THE FOURTH IPY, OR INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR, WHEN SCIENTISTS FROM ALL OVER THE GLOBE WILL STUDY THE ARCTIC (NORTH POLE) AND THE ANTARCTIC (SOUTH POLE)
AQUATIC ANIMALS LIKE WHALES, SEALS AND WALRUS WILL ALSO BE INVESTIGATED
ONE OF THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE IPY IS TO INSPIRE A NEW GENERATION OF SCIENTISTS AND INNOVATORS, ESPECIALLY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS
POLAR CULTURES AND SOCIETIES, AS WELL AS ANIMALS LIKE POLAR BEARS IN THE ARCTIC AND PENGUINS IN THE ANTARCTIC, WILL BE STUDIED TO LEARN IF THEIR NUMBERS ARE ENDANGERED BY RAPID GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE...
WE SHOULD ALL LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW THE ARCTIC AND ANTARCTIC AFFECT OUR LIVES— GO POLAR
JACK ELROD
www.ipy.noaa.gov



CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	**$25**
• 5-Liner	**$35**
• 3-Liner with picture	**$45**
• 5-Liner with picture	**$55**

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

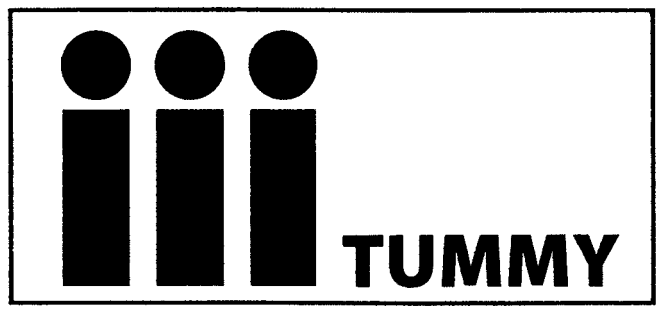
Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



© 2009 WHATZIT? is a trademark of Paul Sellers
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Find today's solution in this section

MOVING SALE

TV, tables, clothes, home appliances, kitchenware, curtains, toys, books, bags, shoes, and more! Call 2342220. From May 16-25, 2009.

FOR SALE - COMMERCIAL

USSP Club, Garapan. The local crowd spot. On Sale $75000. Or Best Offer. Grab a partner and be the next owner! Call Rose @ 286-7653/233-1984. Leaving island.

MAKE-A-WISH
Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr.,
Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104 Tamuning, Guam 96913
Tel: (671) 649-WISH • Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawfguam@ite.net • www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily
Saipan Tribune

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 2-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated Bldg. 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Backup generator. Free Wi-Fi. EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Oceanview & Sunsetview Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

WHATZIT Solution:
Eyes bigger than one's stomach

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2007
Guard files sex harassment suit vs principal
2 hurt in Puerto Rico vehicular crash. PAG
There is still hope for nonimm
Joins Micronesia
OPINION METER
This week's poll:
With what you know of the CUC situation, do you support the adoption of new
Subscribe to the CNMI's
First Daily Newspaper
235- NEWS
www.saipantribune.com

Rockets force Game 7, beat Lakers

HOUSTON (AP)—The Houston Rockets came up with one more stunning victory to set up a final showdown with the Los Angeles Lakers. Aaron Brooks scored 26 points, Luis Scola added 24 points and 12 rebounds, and the scrappy, undermanned Rockets pushed the top-seeded Lakers to the brink in their Western Conference semifinal series with a 95-80 win in Game 6 on Thursday night.

Reserve Carl Landry scored 15 as the Rockets built another huge lead in the first half, then fought off a Lakers rally to force Game 7 on Sunday at the Staples Center.

Kobe Bryant scored 32 and Pau Gasol added 14 for Los Angeles, which lost for only the third time in the last 18 games when it has a chance to close out a series.

The Lakers have one more opportunity to finish off Houston, but they probably didn't expect to need it, three games after Yao Ming exited the series with a broken left foot.

"We still have no chance," Brooks said with a huge smile. "We'll keep playing, though."

The winner will play the Denver Nuggets, who finished off Dallas on Wednesday night and now have a few extra days to rest.

Ron Artest pumped his fist and Scola embraced Brooks near midcourt as the final buzzer sounded and the Lakers walked off the court with their heads down.

Los Angeles won Game 5 by 40 points, matching Houston's worst playoff loss.

The Rockets came out dominant instead of demoralized on Thursday night. They put together a near carbon copy of the first half of Game 4, when they seemed to hit every open shot, smothered the Lakers on defense and built an 18-point halftime lead.

Bryant missed a halfcourt shot at the halftime buzzer in this one and angrily shook his head as he stormed off the court. The Rockets led 52-36 at the break—one basket shy of the halftime score in Game 4.

AP

Houston Rockets forward Ron Artest (96) celebrates after the Rockets beat the Los Angeles Lakers 90-85 in Game 6 of their NBA Western conference playoff basketball series in Houston, Thursday, May 14, 2009.

On Sunday, Houston stretched its lead to 29 and cruised to a 99-87 win. This time, the Lakers made a game of it, opening the second half with a 16-2 spurt.

But Landry converted a three-point play to break the Lakers' momentum and Brooks sank a 3-pointer to help Houston rebuild its lead.

The Rockets hit their last eight shots in the third quarter and took a 75-65 lead to the fourth. Landry drove down the lane for a one-handed dunk with 6:56 left to put Houston up 81-71 and Bryant checked in after a long rest.

But Bryant missed four of his next six shots and Brooks scored eight points over the next five minutes to secure another surprise over the Western Conference's top seed.

"We got active again against Kobe. He's going to make some shots. We toughed it out in the fourth quarter," Brooks said.

The Lakers outrebounded Houston 45-39, but the Rockets scored 40 points in the paint and held Los Angeles to 36 percent shooting (30-for-84). The Lakers went only 5-for-23 from 3-point range.

Houston opened the game with a 17-1 burst, electrifying another red-clad capacity crowd at the Toyota Center.

Bryant made the Lakers' first field goal near the 6-minute mark, but Scola put in another short jumper to make it 19-3—one point better than Houston's opening run in Game 4.

Artest got a nice pass from Chuck Hayes and muscled inside for a layup to make it 21-3. The Lakers missed 14 of 20 shots in the quarter and trailed 27-15.

Shane Battier and Artest sank 3-pointers early in the second quarter, another good sign for Houston. The Rockets made 10 3-pointers in their Game 4 victory, but only five in Game 5.

Von Wafer, averaging only 6.6 points in the series, sank a 3 with 5:51 left in the half to put Houston ahead 42-25 and force Lakers coach Phil Jackson to use a timeout.

But Houston stayed in control and Bryant's frustration boiled over near the 2-minute mark.

With Artest blanketing him near midcourt, Bryant appeared to shove Artest and earned a technical foul. The temperamental Artest, ejected from Games 2 and 3, ran away to avoid a confrontation and Brooks sank the free throw for a 47-31 Houston lead.

Magic 83, Celtics 75

At Orlando, Fla., the pressure is back on the defending champions. Dwight Howard had 23 points and 22 rebounds after challenging Stan Van Gundy's coaching strategy, and the Orlando Magic beat the Boston Celtics to force a decisive Game 7.

Rashard Lewis had 20 points, and Hedo Turkoglu made a 3-pointer to highlight an 11-2 run to close the game for the Magic, who haven't made it to the conference finals since 1996.

"We came out from the get-go ready to play. That's what it takes," Howard said. "It's all about defense and we played great defense."

Rajon Rondo finished with 19 points, 16 rebounds and six assists, and Paul Pierce scored 17 for the Celtics, who led by 10 points in the second half before falling apart. Game 7 is Sunday in Boston.

The Celtics also failed to close out the Chicago Bulls in Game 6 of their first-round series, a triple-overtime epic. Boston will now go the distance in its first two series for the second straight year.

Boston had chances.

The Celtics held the Magic scoreless for more than five minutes to start the third quarter, building a 10-point lead on a jumper by Glen "Big Baby" Davis. But Howard led the Magic back, with a backspin alley-oop from Turkoglu that highlighted a spurt to end the third quarter. Orlando took its first lead with 8:38 remaining in the fourth.

Pierce hit three straight jumpers to give Boston a 73-72 lead with about four minutes to play, but the Celtics were done in by their 3-for-18 shooting from 3-point range and 19 turnovers. Ray Allen missed all seven attempts from behind the arc.

Howard blamed Van Gundy for not getting the ball more after the Magic's Game 5 collapse, when they blew a 14-point lead in the fourth quarter.

"You've got a dominant player, let him be dominant," Howard said.

He came out trying to back up his strong words.

He scored the first eight points of the game for the Magic, including a pair of dunks that pumped some life into the home crowd. Howard finished 9-for-16 shooting, but it took time for him to get some help.

"I got myself open and ran the floor and that's what I have to do," Howard said.

Boston was ready from the first bounce.

The Celtics were again the scrappier team for most of the night, diving for loose balls and outmuscling the Magic for rebounds. Pierce's layup capped a 13-2 run that pushed Boston's lead to 31-22 early in the second quarter.

It wouldn't last.

Finding their shots from outside, the Magic scored seven straight points, getting 3-pointers from reserves A.J. Johnson and Mickael Pietrus. Orlando eventually tied the game just before the half on a short jumper by Rashard Lewis, but Pierce's free throws helped put Boston ahead 46-45 at the break.

Goydos, Leonard shoot 63s to share Texas Open lead

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Paul Goydos made eight birdies before his final drive sailed into a fairway bunker, blemishing what was almost an unmatched start in the Texas Open.

"I mean, you can't have everything good happen for every moment of your life," Goydos said.

Goydos, who publicly opened up this month about the death of his ex-wife in January and raising his two teenage daughters, shot a 7-under 63 on Thursday at La Cantera Golf Club for a share of the first-round lead with Justin Leonard. It's the first time since 1999 that Goydos has opened a tournament with at least a share of the lead.

Teeing off early in the morning, the 44-year-old Goydos had the lead for most of the day until Leonard birdied three of his last four holes in the afternoon. Leonard is pursuing a record fourth Texas Open championship, and hasn't been tied for first this early at La Cantera since his first win in 2000.

"When you tee off and you're seven shots back, I felt the need that I've got to make birdies because I don't want to have this huge deficit after one round," Leonard said. "I was able to get off to a great start. From then, being able to stay patient and give myself opportunities, I did a good job of that today."

Goydos shot a 29 on the front nine, a stroke shy of a personal tour best through nine holes. Leonard's 63 was his best round in 11 tournaments here.

Jeff Maggert, Marc Leishman and Ted Purdy opened with 64s, and Englishmen Brian Davis and Greg Owen shot 65s.

Major winners David Duval, Lee Janzen and Corey Pavin were three strokes back. Duval's 66 was his best round since January 2007.

Zach Johnson, trying to defend his tournament championship from October, shot a 68 in the first Texas Open to tee off in the spring since 1969.

Goydos surged ahead with six birdies before the turn, including a 60-yard pitch on No. 8 that set up a 3-foot putt. The last time Goydos held at least a share of a first-round lead was the U.S. Open a decade ago.

Goydos stepped away from the tour earlier this year after his ex-wife, Wendy, died unexpectedly. She had battled a drug addiction stemming from a bout with migraines.

He had kept private about Wendy and the girls, then gave his first interview for the May edition of Golf Digest. Others interviews have followed, and Goydos said he made "a conscious decision" to tell the story.

"We're all going to go through difficult times," Goydos said. "I've been on tour for 17 years. I'm sure there's plenty of other people who've been on tour for 17 years who have had difficult times."

Anthony Kim opened with a 69 after a dismal start and finish to his round. The 23-year-old Texan bogeyed two of his first three holes, them muffed his second shot from the rough on No. 18 before two-putting for a double bogey.

The Texas Open is the PGA Tour's third-oldest tournament, but had long been relegated to the tour's far less attractive fall calendar. The switch to May now makes it the first leg of a new Texas Swing, with stops at the Byron Nelson Championship and Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial still ahead.

The tournament is the final one at La Cantera before moving to a new, Greg Norman-designed TPC course nearby in San Antonio next year.

Mathis, Angels nick Red Sox in 12 innings

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—Jeff Mathis hit an RBI single in the 12th inning, Torii Hunter had a two-run double and an RBI triple, and the Los Angeles Angels beat the Boston Red Sox 5-4 on Thursday.

Boston slugger David Ortiz went 0-for-7 and stranded 12 runners. He struck out three times, once with the bases loaded in the fourth, and left the bases loaded again in the 12th with a dribbler in front of the plate as his average plummeted to .208.

The five-time All-Star has gone 144 at-bats since his last home run on Sept. 22 against Cleveland's Zach Jackson at Fenway Park. He is one at-bat from equaling his longest dry spell.

AP

Los Angeles Angels, including Erick Aybar, bottom, celebrate after Jeff Mathis' game-winning base hit in the 12th inning against the Boston Red Sox during a baseball game in Anaheim, Calif., Thursday, May 14, 2009.

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 2

At Toronto, back from nagging injuries, Derek Jeter and Hideki Matsui delivered key hits to lead CC Sabathia and the Yankees to the win.

Jeter tied it with an RBI single in the seventh inning, Matsui put New York ahead with a solo homer in the eighth and Mariano Rivera worked a perfect ninth for his seventh save in eight chances.

Indians 11, Rays 7

At St. Petersburg, Fla., Victor Martinez had four hits and drove in four runs, raising his batting average to .400 and helping Cleveland get the victory.

Shin-Soo Choo and Asdrubal Cabrera also had four hits apiece, with Choo driving in three runs in support of right-hander Fausto Carmona, who made it interesting after being staked to a nine-run lead.

Twins 6, Tigers 5

At Minneapolis, Joe Crede capped another Minnesota comeback with a two-out, two-run single in a six-run seventh inning that ruined Justin Verlander's strong start and helped the Twins finish a three-game sweep.

Crede's blooper into shallow center against struggling reliever Zach Miner, who walked Michael Cuddyer to load the bases, put the Twins ahead about 14 1/2 hours after his grand slam in the 13th ended Wednesday night's game.

Orioles 9, Royals 5

At Kansas City, Mo., Cesar Izturis and Nick Markakis each drove in three runs and the Orioles won again in their favorite road ballpark.

Baltimore has won 15 of 18 against Kansas City and is 43-15 against the Royals since 2001, including 24-7 at Kauffman Stadium. The Orioles did it this time with a big night offensively—12 hits—and a just-good-enough start from Jeremy Guthrie (3-3).

Rangers 3, Mariners 2

At Arlington, Texas, Chris Davis hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the ninth inning, lifting Texas to a three-game sweep.

The Rangers didn't score until Hank Blalock led off the ninth against closer Brandon Morrow (0-3) with a home run into the second deck of right-field stands. After David Murphy's one-out double, Davis homered to center to give AL West-leading Texas its 10th win in 12 games.

Dodgers 5, Phillies 3

At Philadelphia, Russell Martin hit a tiebreaking double in the 10th inning and Matt Kemp followed with an RBI double to lift the Los Angeles Dodgers over the Philadelphia Phillies.

Chad Durbin (1-1) retired the first two batters, then walked Andre Ethie. Martin doubled for a 4-3 lead and after an intentional walk, Kemp delivered.

Cubs 11, Padres 3

At Chicago, Bobby Scales hit a pair of two-run doubles and Ryan Dempster excelled with both his arm and bat as Chicago took advantage of 10 walks to beat skidding San Diego.

Adrian Gonzalez homered for the fourth consecutive game but couldn't prevent San Diego from losing its 11th straight on the road, its longest skid in 38 years. Since starting the season 10-6, the Padres are 3-16.

Brewers 5, Marlins 3

At Milwaukee, Prince Fielder hit a go-ahead homer and Dave Bush turned in another strong start for Milwaukee, which finished a three-game sweep of Florida.

Trevor Hoffman earned his eighth save and has yet to give up a run in nine innings this season. The Brewers have won nine of 11 and begin a nine-game road trip at St. Louis on Friday night.

Astros 5, Rockies 3

At Denver, Wandy Rodriguez struck out a career-high 11 and Michael Bourn stole home on the back end of a double steal, leading Houston over Colorado.

One of baseball's fastest runners, Bourn tied a career high with four hits and finished with two stolen bases. Carlos Lee homered for the Astros.

Cardinals 5, Pirates 1

At Pittsburgh, Colby Rasmus' two-run homer in the second inning gave St. Louis' slumping offense a lift and the Cardinals avoided being swept by last-place Pittsburgh.

The Cardinals had lost five consecutive games in Pittsburgh and were in jeopardy of being swept in a three-game series for the first time since Sept. 12-14, also at PNC Park. Depleted by injuries, St. Louis had lost four of five and seven of 10.

Mets 7, Giants 4

At San Francisco, David Wright hit a tiebreaking RBI single in the ninth inning and finished with four of New York's franchise-record seven stolen bases, leading the Mets to a victory over the Giants.

Wright had three hits and drove in two runs for New York, which has won nine of 11. Gary Sheffield and Carlos Beltran each had two hits and Ramon Castro(notes) had two RBIs.

Umpire apologizes for making contact with Ordonez

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Umpire Paul Schrieber promptly issued an apology on Thursday morning for placing his hand on Detroit slugger Magglio Ordonez's back and steering him toward the dugout during a heated confrontation the previous night.

It took even less time for Ordonez and Tigers manager Jim Leyland to accept it.

"In yesterday's game, after I called Magglio Ordonez out on strikes, I inadvertently placed my hand on his back and ushered him away from home plate so I did not have to eject him for arguing balls and strikes," Schrieber said in a statement issued before the Tigers-Twins series finale on Thursday. "I should not have placed my hands on him, period. For doing so, I apologize to both Magglio Ordonez and the Detroit Tigers."

Ordonez argued that the called third strike was low. As Schrieber spoke to him, the umpire placed his hand on Ordonez's back and steered him toward the dugout. That's when the hitter and manager responded.

Leyland was ejected after a vehement defense of Ordonez. A day later, the hot tempers had cooled considerably.

Even before Schrieber made his statement publicly, Leyland and Ordonez said they were sure the umpire's actions were innocent.

Ordonez said Thursday morning he was surprised when Schrieber put his hand on his back, but added that he didn't think Schrieber "had any bad intentions."

"You're not supposed to do that," Ordonez said. "If you touch (an umpire), you get suspended. I'd be home."

Throughout a managing career that started in the minor leagues in 1971, Leyland said he has never seen an umpire make contact with a player like that. But he also made a point to say that he didn't think Schrieber should be suspended.

"I want to defend the umpire in a sense that he did not do it with any intentional, physically really, challenge of the player or anything like that," Leyland said. "I have no problem with that umpire. I do have a problem with what he did. You can't do it. But it wasn't something that was a violent gesture. I think he was just saying, 'Hey, that's it. Get out of here.'"

There is a high-profile history of players and managers being punished for making contact with an umpire, from Baltimore's Roberto Alomar spitting in the face of John Hirschbeck in 1996 to Boston's Carl Everett head-butting Ron Kulpa in 2000. Twins outfielder Delmon Young got 50 games for flinging a bat at an umpire while in the minors in 2006.

Just on Saturday, Mets manager Jerry Manuel was suspended for one game and fined an undisclosed amount for brushing umpire Bill Welke's hat with the tip of his own cap while arguing an obstruction call on Jose Reyes.

But the instances of an umpire initiating contact are so rare that Leyland and Twins manager Ron Gardenhire couldn't recall a similar case.

"Have I ever seen it? I've seen a lot of stuff in the game," Gardenhire said. "I don't know. You'd have to talk to the umpire and all them on that side. I know Mr. Leyland was very fired up about that, to say the least. So, yeah, that didn't look too kosher. I think it was kind of meant to be harmless, but it's really not."

Umpire Mike Winters was suspended for the final five days of the 2007 regular season and did not work the postseason for using profanity aimed at then-Padres outfielder Milton Bradley, but there was no physical contact between the player and umpire.

The Associated Press left a phone message with Mike Port, Major League Baseball's vice president of umpiring, seeking comment.

Leyland went out of his way to compliment Schrieber's performance on Wednesday night.

"I hope the umpire doesn't get suspended or something because I don't think the man did it with any malice or tried to create a problem," Leyland said. "It was just a reaction. It was a reaction he shouldn't have had, but I don't think it warrants any type of discipline, maybe other than a fine. I hope we both get fines and turn the page."

Crew chief Joe West said Schrieber "shouldn't have put his hands on him, but he was trying to keep the man in the game."

Bradley suspension reduced to 1 game

CHICAGO (AP)—Milton Bradley's suspension was reduced from two games to one by Major League Baseball on Thursday, but that didn't make him any happier. The Chicago Cubs outfielder still feels he was a victim of his reputation as a hothead.

"It figures," he said after MLB announced its decision regarding the April 16 incident. "I never get treated fairly. This is me. This is exactly what I expected.

"I'm Milton Bradley, you know what I'm saying? You expect me to be crazy and throw stuff and do whatever."

Bradley didn't throw anything after umpire Larry Vanover called him out on strikes with the bases loaded. But the famously volatile ballplayer did get in Vanover's face and the umpiring crew contended that Bradley's hat made slight contact with Vanover. It was Bradley's first Wrigley Field at-bat after he had signed a $30 million contract during the offseason.

MLB announced the suspension and, even though he was injured at the time, Bradley appealed "on principle." His hearing was held May 6.

"I've been suspended before—justifiably. I never appealed because I knew I did wrong," he said. This latest time, however, "the guy made a bad call and I reacted and now I've got to deal with the consequences."

He already had been upset about a strike call on a 3-0 count in the same at-bat.

"I can accept a bad call early if it's strike one," Bradley said. "You call multiple balls in the same at-bat that are questionable at best, then I have to feel like you're picking on me a little bit—or you're just bad."

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	23	14	.622	-
Boston	21	14	.600	1
New York	17	17	.500	4 1/2
Tampa Bay	16	20	.444	6 1/2
Baltimore	15	20	.429	7

Central Division

Detroit	17	16	.515	-
Kansas City	18	17	.514	-
Minnesota	18	17	.514	-
Chicago	15	17	.469	1 1/2
Cleveland	14	22	.389	4 1/2

West Division

Texas	20	14	.588	-
Los Angeles	18	15	.545	1 1/2
Seattle	15	19	.441	5
Oakland	13	18	.419	5 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

New York	19	15	.559	-
Atlanta	17	17	.500	2
Philadelphia	16	16	.500	2
Florida	17	18	.486	2 1/2
Washington	11	21	.344	7

Central Division

Milwaukee	21	14	.600	-
St. Louis	21	14	.600	-
Chicago	20	14	.588	1/2
Cincinnati	20	14	.588	1/2
Houston	16	18	.471	4 1/2
Pittsburgh	14	20	.412	6 1/2

West Division

Los Angeles	24	12	.667	-
San Francisco	18	16	.529	5
Colorado	13	20	.394	9 1/2
Arizona	13	22	.371	10 1/2
San Diego	13	22	.371	10 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Milwaukee 5, Florida 3
L.A. Dodgers 5, Philadelphia 3, 10 innings
Chicago Cubs 11, San Diego 3
Houston 5, Colorado 3
St. Louis 5, Pittsburgh 1
N.Y. Mets 7, San Francisco 4
Minnesota 6, Detroit 5
Texas 3, Seattle 2
L.A. Angels 5, Boston 4, 12 innings
N.Y. Yankees 3, Toronto 2
Cleveland 11, Tampa Bay 7
Baltimore 9, Kansas City 5

VALERO TEXAS OPEN

FIRST ROUND

Justin Leonard	63
Paul Goydos	63
Ted Purdy	64
Jeff Maggert	64
Marc Leishman	64
Brian Davis	65
Greg Owen	65
Mathias Gronberg	66
J.J. Henry	66
Fredrik Jacobson	66
Lee Janzen	66
David Duval	66
Stephen Ames	66
Corey Pavin	66
Willie Wood	66
Harrison Frazar	67
Kent Jones	67
Kevin Stadler	67
Dean Wilson	67
Tim Clark	67
Bob Estes	67
John Mallinger	67
Scott Verplank	67
Mark Wilson	67
Shaun Micheel	67
Bill Haas	67
Matt Jones	67
Wil Collins	67
James Driscoll	67
Matt Weibring	67
Gary Woodland	67
Marco Dawson	68
Patrick Sheehan	68
Chad Campbell	68
Zach Johnson	68
Briny Baird	68
Garrett Willis	68
Matt Bettencourt	68
Tim Herron	68
Charlie Wi	68
James Nitties	68
Grant Waite	68
Notah Begay III	68
Derek Fathauer	68
Scott Sterling	68
Greg Chalmers	69
Ryan Palmer	69
Mark Hensby	69
Frank Lickliter II	69
Martin Piller	69
Aron Price	69
Tag Ridings	69
Rocco Mediate	69
Jay Williamson	69
Anthony Kim	69
Rich Beem	69
Tim Wilkinson	69
Bart Bryant	70
Vaughn Taylor	70
Charles Warren	70
Charley Hoffman	70
Bob Burns	70
Brandt Jobe	70
Paul Stankowski	70
Guy Boros	70
Todd Fischer	70
Robin Freeman	70
Jimmy Walker	70
Colt Knost	70
Casey Wittenberg	70
Scott McCarron	70
Steve Allan	70
Jesper Parnevik	70
Greg Kraft	70
Chez Reavie	70
Trevor Dodds	70
Nathan Green	70
Nick O'Hern	70
Jay Delsing	70
Jason Gore	70
Bryce Molder	70
Kris Blanks	70
Peter Tomasulo	70
Heath Slocum	71
J.P. Hayes	71
Carlos Franco	71
Daniel Chopra	71
Dicky Pride	71
Scott Gutschewski	71
Bob Heintz	71
Jonathan Kaye	71
Stephen Leaney	71
John Huston	71
Richard S. Johnson	71
Mark Brooks	71
Glen Day	71
Ricky Barnes	71
Tommy Gainey	71
Troy Matteson	72
Nicholas Thompson	72
Eric Axley	72
J.L. Lewis	72
Brian Bateman	72
Chris DiMarco	72
Chris Riley	72
Billy Andrade	72
Tom Byrum	72
Steve Pate	72
Tyler Aldridge	72
Chris Stroud	72
Brian Vranesh	72
Matt Loving	72
Jarrod Lyle	72
David Ogrin	72
Jim Gallagher Jr.	72
David Peoples	72
Phil Tataurangi	72
Troy Kelly	72
James Oh	72
Tadd Fujikawa	72
Brad Adamonis	73
Joe Durant	73
Mike Heinen	73
Robert Gates	73
Spencer Levin	73
Bill Lunde	73
Tim Thelen	73
Neal Lancaster	73
Omar Uresti	73
Alex Cejka	73
Rick Price	73
Roland Thatcher	73
Stephen Dartnall	73
Dustin Johnson	74
Darron Stiles	74
Ted Schulz	74
Cameron Beckman	74
D.J. Trahan	74
Matthew Borchert	74
Brendon de Jonge	74
Chris Baryla	74
Jim McGovern	75
Brent Geiberger	75
D.A. Points	75
Brendon Todd	75
David Mathis	75
Joe Ogilvie	76
Robert Gamez	76
Jason Day	76
Kenny Knox	78
Aaron Watkins	78
Nolan Henke	79
Kirk Triplett	79
Leif Olson	79
Jose Coceres	80
Lance Ten Broeck	71

By The Associated Press

DFS netfest entry deadline Sunday

Organizers of the 28th Annual DFS Micronesian Championships are reminding interested participants in the adults doubles and juniors singles to submit registration forms on or before Sunday, May 17, at 5pm.

Competitions in the adults doubles and juniors singles will run from May 22 to 25.

From May 29 to 31, the annual tournament will have the adults singles and junior doubles and deadline for submission of entry forms is on May 24.

Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association is encouraging members of the tennis community to participate in the two-weekend tournament, as proceeds of the event will be used in the CNMI Junior Team's off-island competitions.

Next month, CNMI junior netters will go to Guam for the North Pacific Qualifying tournament. The qualifier will run from June 15 to 19 and will have the CNMI junior netters battling the host, Palau, and FSM players.

Arriola

Heo

Commonwealth bets who will make the grade in Guam will then suit up for the North Pacific Team and will travel to Fiji in August for the 2009 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships.

For more information about the DFS netfest, contact Jeff Race at 322-56-52.

Last year, top junior netters Ji Hoon Heo and Mayuko Arriola won the DFS Micronesian Championships' 18-under divisions.

Lope Padilla (men's 4.5), Dodong Salinas (men's 3.0), J.W. Jang (men's 40-and-over), Dinalet Jones (women's 3.0/2.0), Heo and Cody Race (boys' 16-and-under), Clay McCullough-Stearns (boys' 12-and-under), and Mikyla Lopez and Kris Obaldo (girls' 12-and-under) won their respective divisions last Sunday. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

Fil-Taga May Ace tourney set this Sunday

The Fil-Taga Golfers Association will hold its May Ace of the Month Tournament this Sunday, May 17, at the Marianas Golf and Country Club in Marpi.

According to tournament director Mario Guban, show time is set at 11am with tee-off time scheduled 30 minutes later at 11:30am.

Established in 1993, Fil-Taga's tournaments operate under a computer-controlled handicap system that creates parity among players in the A and B Flights.

A Fil-Taga Ace of the Month champion is crowned monthly. Regular tournaments are scheduled once a month, normally every third Sunday. Green fees are in the $35 to $40 price range for most tournaments.

Its 2008-2009 set of officers are led by president Mike Cruz, vice president Jhun Calma, secretary Manny Po, treasurer Arnaldo Guban, and board of directors Fr. Manny Corcuera , Jhun Dela Cruz, Ted Malaran, Gil Faller, Rey Ferraz, Greg De Torres, Rene Batalliones, Nestor Siruelo, and George Sablan. ***(PR)***

MT. CARMEL

From Page 28

each. But remember, we still have to pay the club. So, we're really looking at between $6,000 to $7,000 that we raised today."

Dela Cruz also couldn't hide her jubilation on the unexpected win of junior golfer Chang Kyun Kim, who is an alumnus of the Chalan Kanoa-based institution.

"I'm very proud of him. Actually when he walked up and registered this morning he said 'Ms. Dela Cruz I'm here to play. I really miss Mt. Carmel.' And I said Mt. Carmel probably did something good to you. He said, 'Yes, definitely!' I'm so proud of him for giving back and helping support our school."

Chang won the championship flight of the golfest with a 2-under par 70 and led the list of winners in the golf fundraiser.

Jess "Mr. Unorthodox" Wabol was second in the championship flight with his even 72. Another Korean, Jung Won Lee, actually tied Wabol's 72 but settled for second runner-up after losing via scorecard tiebreak.

Joining Chang in the champions' list last Saturday were Rene Batallones (A flight), Jose Itibus (B flight), John Matsumoto (C flight), Edward Manibusan (Seniors flight), and Yang Kim (Ladies flight).

AUGHENBAUGH

From Page 28

The Fielders' Nokki Saralu and Peter Tenorio were tied in the doubles category, tallying seven apiece, while Aughenbaugh's teammate, Joshua Jones, had the most triples with six.

Placing runner-up to Aughenbaugh in the batting race was Fielders catcher Juan Maratita, who went 26-for-52 for a .500 batting average.

Rounding out the Top 10 were the D-9ers' Eric Tenorio (.481), Fielders' Tony Aguon (.450), Ol'Aces' Mike Iguel (.447), Fielders' Tenorio (.444), Lion King's Richard Dela Cruz (.438), Fielders' Tom Agulto (.431), Jets' Jones (.421), and D-9ers' Matt Sablan (.405.).

Completing the Top 15 were Saralu (.380), Jets' Justin Kintol (.368), Fielders' Jonathan Celis (.360), Jets' Harry Nakamura (.340), and D-9ers' Dave Jones (.340).

Batting leaders were based on 38 or more times at bat.

The ERA champion was also from the Jets with Joe Palacios beating 11 other pitchers.

Palacios had a 0.95 ERA in 22 innings pitched.

In second place was the Fielders' Agulto (1.05), followed by the Jets' Jones (1.14), Fielders' Nathan Guerrero (1.88), D-9ers' Tenorio (2.10), Saralu (2.17), D9-ers' Dave Jones (2.72), Ol'Aces' Anthony Guerrero (3.00), Jets' Harry Nakamura (3.69), D-9ers' Clyde Sablan (3.79), Maratita (4.13), and Ol'Aces' Michael Manas (4.50).

Saralu claimed his second individual award after having the most strikeouts with 45. He and the Jets' Joshua Jones had a close fight, as the latter tallied 44 strikeouts. Nakamura had 42, Dave Jones made 34, and Lion King' Dominic Chargualaf logged 31 to complete the Top 5.

Making it to the Top 10 were Lion King's Dela Cruz (30), Ol'Aces' Guerrero (28), the Jets' Palacios (27), the Ol'Aces' Mike Iguel (22), and the D-9ers' Sablan (18).

Fielders ruled this year's Senior League after shutting out Lion King in the finals, 10-0.

Fielders won over D-9ers in the semifinals, 6-1, while Lion King prevailed over the Jets in a controversial forfeited semis match. The Jets lost on a violation on rules for uniforms.

GOODWILL

From Page 28

May 23 will start at exactly at 9am at the Tinian Dynasty's ballroom and will be an all-day affair.

In March last year, Tinian's table tennis players reasserted their dominance in the sport, beating teams from neighboring Guam and Saipan to win the 10th Goodwill Table Tennis Tournament held at the Tinian Dynasty.

Ma and brothers Luke and Robin Lu—collectively known as Tinian A—lost only four games in 40 head-to-head matches against two teams from Saipan, Guam, and their sister team, Tinian B, en route to winning the team competition of the tournament.

In the singles, Ma won the championship followed by Saipan's Shi and Su.

In the doubles, Ma and Liang teamed up to defeat Shi and Su. The Lu brothers settled for third place.

For more information about the upcoming 11th Goodwill Table Tennis Tournament, call Gurung at 234-1234.

DAN

From Page 28

Now, the tournament will no longer have a pool play and instead will have a round-robin format, which according to Aguon makes the competition tougher.

"It (competition) will be a lot tougher and I just hope our hard work and heart will be enough to pull us through. We will do our very best in every game," Aguon said.

Mathis, Angels nick Red Sox in 12 innings

Jeff Mathis hit an RBI single in the 12th inning, Torii Hunter had a two-run double and an RBI triple, and the Los Angeles Angels beat the Boston Red Sox 5-4 on Thursday.

26

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Rockets force Game 7, beat Lakers

The Houston Rockets came up with one more stunning victory to set up a final showdown with the Los Angeles Lakers.

25

Dan Barcinas to beef up Nationals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Prolific scorer Dan Barcinas will suit up for the CNMI Men's Nationals who will play in next month's 2009 FIBA Oceania Tournament.

Barcinas, a former MVP in the MISO high school caging and played for various caging on Saipan, is now based in Oregon, but will be in town early next month to help the Nationals' bid in the Oceania event.

"He will be a big addition to the team, especially on the offensive end. He played for me before, so he knows how the system works. He will just have to adjust with his new teammates, quickly," Nationals coach Rufino Aguon said in a telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune*.

Aguon added Barcinas has been playing pick-up games in Oregon, so the Mt. Carmel School alumnus is still in good shape for the Oceania caging, which Saipan will host from June 20 to 28.

Barcinas is expected to fill the vacuum Jericho Cruz left on the team.

Aguon said Cruz planned to go to the Philippines next month to enroll in a university and try his luck in a collegiate league.

"Jericho told me he was leaving early June, so he will not be able to play. But he has been practicing with the guys to stay fit and be ready when he goes to Manila for school," Aguon said. "We are already looking ahead to playing without him. He will be a big loss, but we all must move forward."

Besides Barcinas, the Nationals are also waiting for big man Oscar Ada, who will plane in from Hawaii at the end of this month. Ada played for the CNMI during the 2006 Micronesian Games and his return to tour of duty will boost the Commonwealth's frontline. He will be teaming up with Kelvin Fitial and Mel Manibusan.

Other players training for the Nationals are Jayvan Tarkong, James Camacho, Joseph White, Quincy Johnson, Joemary Tumaquip, Allen Moses, Marvin Rabauliman, Pete Iguel, and Keoni Chariton.

Aguon is expected to name the CNMI National Team at the end of this month.

Meanwhile, the Nationals mentor had mixed feelings about the withdrawal of Fiji, Tahiti, and Palau from the Oceania tournament.

"I am happy because we will get a chance to play New Zealand, but sad because we are looking forward to an eight-man tournament and learn from these seven other squads," Aguon said.

Prior to the withdrawals, the CNMI Men's Nationals were placed in Pool B, along with Australia, Guam, and New Caledonia. Pool A had Fiji, Tahiti, Palau, and New Zealand. In the women's draw, CNMI was in Pool A, along with Fiji, Guam, and New Zealand. Pool B had Tahiti, New Caledonia, Palau, and Australia.

See DAN on Page 27

Dan Barcinas, seen here in a file photo from his playing days with the Mt. Carmel Knights, will suit up for the CNMI Men's Nationals for next month's 2009 FIBA Oceania Tournament.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Goodwill ping-pong on May 23

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Paddlers from Saipan and Tinian will again take on each other in the 11th Goodwill Table Tennis Tournament set for May 23 at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino.

However, unlike the previous stagings of the goodwill tournament, next week's competition will include a team category to supplement the regular singles and doubles divisions.

"Each team can enter their three best players and whichever team wins five games will be declared as the winner though we have to play a total of nine games. Each player will have to play three games. After that we will play our doubles and singles, which will be played on a knockout basis for first, second, and third place," said tournament coordinator Budhi Gurung of the Marianas Amateur Table Tennis Association.

Gurung

The powerhouse Tinian team has become even stronger with the addition of Saipan stalwart Su Yong Dong, who recently relocated to the island. He will be joined by defending singles champion Mark Ma and old reliables Charlie Cheng, Robin Lu, Bright Liu, Alfred Yue, and Liang Wei Bin.

The Saipan team, meanwhile, will be reinforced by Guam's Hisamitsu Hamamoto and will include MATTA mainstays Jean Shi, Budhi Gurung, Steve Lim, and three players from the Korean Ping-Pong Association.

Gurung said games on

See GOODWILL on Page 27

Mt. Carmel pleased with turnout at fundraiser

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The 7th Annual Mount Carmel School Golf Tournament held last Saturday drew a total of 79 participants to the delight of the school's president Margaret Dela Cruz.

"The tournament was really successful. I was anticipating there would be maybe 60 players but we had a total of 79 players that showed up today. Everyone was here and we're just very, very pleased with the support that our golfers have given to Mt. Carmel School," said Dela Cruz during an interview after the awards banquet held on the grounds of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

She said it really means a great deal for Mt. Carmel to see the golfing community come out in full force and support the island's lone Catholic learning institution.

"Just on the players themselves, we already have $7,900 based on the $100 entry fee for

See MT. CARMEL on Page 27

MARK RABAGO

The winners of the 7th Annual Mount Carmel School Golf Tournament pose with the school's president Margaret Dela Cruz, second right, after the awards banquet Saturday at the grounds of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

Aughenbaugh

Aughenbaugh dominates Senior League

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Jets' Eli Aughenbaugh is this season's batting champion in the Senior League division of the 2009 Saipan Little League Baseball, besting 14 other sluggers.

Aughenbaugh posted a batting average of .519 after going 27-for-52 at the plate in the regular season. He also ruled three other categories, making him the player with the most individual awards in the Senior League.

Aughenbaugh led the league in runs with 24, home runs with four, and RBIs with 23.

See AUGHENBAUGH on Page 27